

Minnesota Natural Wild Rice Harvester Survey: A Study of Harvesters' Activities and Opinions



Wild rice harvesters on Mallard Lake, Aitkin County, MN, 2006

Final Report



A study conducted by:
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of
Fish and Wildlife, Management Section of Wildlife

Minnesota Natural Wild Rice Harvester Survey: A Study of Harvesters' Activities and Opinions

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Executive Summary

The following objectives guided the study design, survey instrument and final report for this effort.

- To determine the characteristics of wild rice harvesters in Minnesota.
- To assess current harvest levels and harvester satisfaction.
- To assess current natural wild rice harvest use of Minnesota lakes and rivers.
- To obtain wild rice harvester opinions of current state regulations and proposed revisions.
- To determine factors that limit wild rice harvesting.
- Identify information needs of wild rice harvesters, and the best means to deliver information to harvesters.
- To determine support for natural wild rice management priorities.

In November of 2006 the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources initiated a self-administered, mail questionnaire of all 2006 wild rice license holders (n=1,625) to gather information on the objectives listed above, and all 2004 and 2005 license holders who did not purchase a license in 2006 (n=945) to gather information on why they did not harvest wild rice in 2006. Completed questionnaires were returned by 53 percent (n=1,365) of the 2,574-license holder sample.

Characteristics

The 2004 to 2006 wild rice license holder respondents were predominately male (82%), Minnesota residents (98%), and averaged 51 years of age. A large majority (81%) are 40 years of age or older. A majority harvested wild rice under only a state license (86%). The average age that harvesters began gathering wild rice was 31. Friends and parents were the primary means of introduction to the activity, and 69 percent of harvesters reported introducing others to gathering wild rice. The average harvester has 13 seasons of experience.

Harvest Levels

Based on responses, an estimated average of 430 pounds of unprocessed natural wild rice was gathered per harvester in 2006. Based on state issued license sales of 1,625 in 2006, this creates a total harvest estimate of approximately 700,000 pounds of natural wild rice. Approximately two percent of 2006 respondents harvested more than 2,000 pounds of rice, while 79 percent harvested less than 500 pounds. When comparing these groups (those harvesting > 500 lbs and those harvesting < 500 lbs) there is a difference in both the average age they began harvesting (20 and 33 years old, respectively) and the average number of seasons participated (25 and 12 years, respectively). A large majority (85%) of harvesters harvest for personal use.

Harvester Satisfaction

A large majority (82%) of 2006 harvesters were satisfied with their overall wild rice harvesting experience, with only one in ten expressing dissatisfaction. Harvesters were neutral on the existing wild rice season opening date (July 15th) and slightly in favor of the current wild rice

season hours (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Other comment topics included: high licensing fees, less than ideal water levels, lack of processor information, lack of enforcement, weather, shoreline degradation, motor boats in wild rice stands, beaver control, and a need for more regulation of genetically modified wild rice.

Use of Minnesota Lake and Rivers to Harvest Wild Rice

A total of 3,151 trips were reported by 845 harvesters, resulting in an average of 4 trips per person to gather wild rice. Sixty percent (60%) of 2006 harvesters took three or fewer trips, while 12 harvesters (1%) managed 20 or more trips. One half (50%) of the respondents reported harvesting on only one lake, indicating that multiple trips were made to the same lakes. An additional 28 percent reported harvesting on two lakes. The average number of lakes visited for harvesting wild rice was 1.8 across all harvesters. The maximum number of lakes visited was six.

During 2006, over two-thirds (70%) of all wild rice harvesting trips were in Aitkin, St. Louis, Itasca, Crow Wing or Cass counties. The next five counties with the highest number of trips were Becker, Clearwater, Beltrami, Lake and Hubbard counties. The above ten counties had 91 percent of all wild rice harvesting trips. A total of 28 counties were identified as being visited for wild rice gathering.

While 407 locations were identified from the survey results to at least the county level, only 313 noted a specific name (i.e. lake name or river segment). Of these 313 locations, the top ten harvest locations based on harvest pressure (number of trips) account for 27.4 percent of the statewide total. Further review notes that 50 percent of total trips are represented by the top 32 locations and that the top 68 locations represent 66.6 percent of total trips.

State Regulations

About half (53%) of the respondents supported a change in harvesting hours from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. to 10 a.m. - sunset, and three-fourths (77%) supported changing the wild rice season opening from July 15 to August 14. More than half (62% and 66% respectively) of the respondents opposed use of watercraft up to 38 inches wide or establishing a 7-day nonresident license.

Participation, Information Needs

The most important factors identified by respondents that limit participation in harvesting were personal time, and knowing when and where to harvest wild rice. For respondents that did not harvest in 2006, finding a rice processor ranked highest after personal time. Where and when to harvest are again ranked high for information helpful to 2006 ricers. In order of preference, the preferred method for delivery of information is through web sites, pamphlets or as a section of the DNR Hunting Regulation Handbook. Other limiting factors identified in comments include the cost of the license, fuel and transportation costs, and access (to private and reservation lakes).

Management Priorities

A large majority of respondents ranked water level management as the highest management priority, followed by availability of information. Seeding ranked third, while enforcement of regulations, access site improvement, and wild rice research were ranked fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively. Other comments included protection from genetically modified rice, increased habitat protection, and excessive license fees. Specific habitat protection comments included more restrictions on shoreline development, protection from motorized watercraft, prevention of the removal of wild rice through aquatic plant management permits, and more management of specific lakes that are historical wild rice lakes.

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Introduction

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR), as an agency, collects participation information on user groups. The information on user groups is collected to assess trends facing the MNDNR's customers, and to measure its success with and needs of those user groups. Wild rice harvester license sales peaked at 16,000 in 1968, and sales are currently around 1,500 annually. The sale of state wild rice harvesting licenses has steadily decreased since the 1980's. However, this decline does not take into account tribal permit sales as each reservation has their own license structure separate from the state. Because of the license sale decline, the MNDNR initiated a survey of state wild rice license holders to determine how it can better serve this user group.

Study Purpose and Objectives

The following objectives guided the study design and survey instrument development.

- 1) To determine the characteristics of wild rice harvesters in Minnesota.
- 2) To assess current harvest trends and harvester satisfaction.
- 3) To assess current natural wild rice harvest use (locations) of Minnesota lakes and rivers.
- 4) To obtain wild rice harvester opinions of current regulations and proposed legislative revisions to regulations.
- 5) To determine factors that limit wild rice harvesting, information needs of wild rice harvesters, and the best means to deliver information to harvesters.
- 6) To determine support for natural wild rice management priorities.

Methods

Sampling

The population of interest included all 2006 Minnesota wild rice license holders (n= 1,625). In addition, all 2004 and 2005 licensed wild rice harvesters that did not obtain permits in 2006 were sampled (n=1,101). Harvesters under the age of 16 are not required to obtain a license and are not included in this population. In total, 2,726 wild rice license holders were initially surveyed. Since 2000, all MNDNR licenses are distributed through the Electronic Licensing System (ELS). Information about each individual license holder is recorded electronically in a central database. All licenses sold via vendors, the Internet or by telephone are recorded in the ELS. The contact information of licensed wild rice harvesters was drawn from this Electronic Licensing System.

Study Design

A self-administered, mail questionnaire was developed and designed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Management Section and Wildlife Policy and Research Group (Appendix A). The survey was administered using an

initial mailing of the survey instrument and cover letter, and two follow-up reminder mailings to nonrespondents. The use of reminder mailings can substantially increase response and reduce nonresponse bias to negligible amounts (Barnes 1946, Robinson and Agism 1951, and Eberhardt and Murray 1960).

Data Collection

The survey administration began in December 2006 and concluded in March 2007, and potential survey respondents were contacted three times. The initial questionnaire and cover letter were sent on December 13, 2006 (n=2,726; Appendix A). A reminder mailing to survey participants with valid mailing addresses and who had not replied to the initial questionnaire mailing occurred on January 19, 2007 (n=1,842; Appendix B cover letter). A second reminder and questionnaire mailing to nonrespondents occurred on March 2, 2007 (n=1,364; Appendix C cover letter). The survey instrument remained the same for all reminder mailings to nonrespondents. Margaret Dexter, MNDNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlife Policy and Research Group conducted survey administration.

Survey Instrument

The questionnaire for the wild rice harvesters was printed on two sides of an 11 x 17 inch paper. On one side of the paper, on the left, upper half was the mailing address of the wild rice harvester, and on the right, upper half was a self-addressed, postage-paid reply address. The other side of the paper had the questionnaire instrument. The 11 x 17 inch paper was folded in half, and then folded over into an 8.5 x 6 inch paper for mailing. A cover letter was inserted inside the folded 11 x 17 inch paper that described the purpose of the questionnaire and the importance of the license holder's response. Each successive reminder mailing to nonrespondents had the identical survey instrument but with different cover letters. These cover letters gave an increasingly insistent appeal to complete and return the questionnaire with each reminder mailing.

The survey instrument was simple and required only check marks, numerals, lake or river names, or county names. It also included opportunities to provide written comments on several questions concerning harvesting experiences, regulation of wild rice harvest and wild rice management. Little time was needed to complete the questionnaire, which is an important factor influencing response rate (Mitchell 1939, Erdos 1957).

Data Entry and Analysis

The mail questionnaire responses were designed to accommodate computer analysis. Response codes were entered into Microsoft Access 2000 software. An Access computer search for spurious codes was conducted. Any errors found during the spurious code search were corrected. Data entry was conducted by the Brainerd Area Wildlife staff. Data analysis and initial report preparation was provided by contract services with Annette Drewes.

Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The frequency of each response was tabulated. Adjusted frequencies for responses to each question are used in all tables and appendices. The

adjusted frequency was calculated by subtracting either or both the number of missing and unclear responses or the “Go to” responses, when applicable, from the total number of responses. This total was used as the denominator in calculating the percentage of responses for each item.

Survey Response Rate

Completed questionnaires were returned by 53 percent (n=1,365) of 2,574 licensed 2004, 2005, and 2006 wild rice harvesters. One hundred and fifty-two addresses were removed from the initial sample (n= 2,726) because of bad addresses, death, or change to an out-of-state address. Therefore, the deliverable sample of 2,574 wild rice license holders was obtained.

Section 1: Characteristics of Minnesota Wild Rice Harvesters

Findings

Results for Part A of the Minnesota wild rice harvester survey are reviewed below. The first eight items in the questionnaire sought information about the characteristics of the wild rice license holders. All 2006 wild rice license holders, and those license holders from 2004 and 2005 that did not purchase a 2006 license were asked to complete this portion of the survey.

Harvester Residency, Age and Gender

A large majority (98.4%) of survey respondents were Minnesota residents (n=1,333). Fewer than two percent were nonresidents (n=22). Eighty-two percent of respondents were male, while 18 percent were female (Appendix D).

The average age of respondent harvesters was 51 years old, with ages ranging from 16 (the age requiring a license) to 85.

There were eleven wild rice harvester respondents in their 80's. The largest respondent age group was 50 year olds (n=448), followed by 40 year olds (n=328), and 60 year olds (n=226). Overall, 81 percent of 2004 to 2006 licensed wild rice harvester respondents were 40 years of age or older (Figure 1.1).

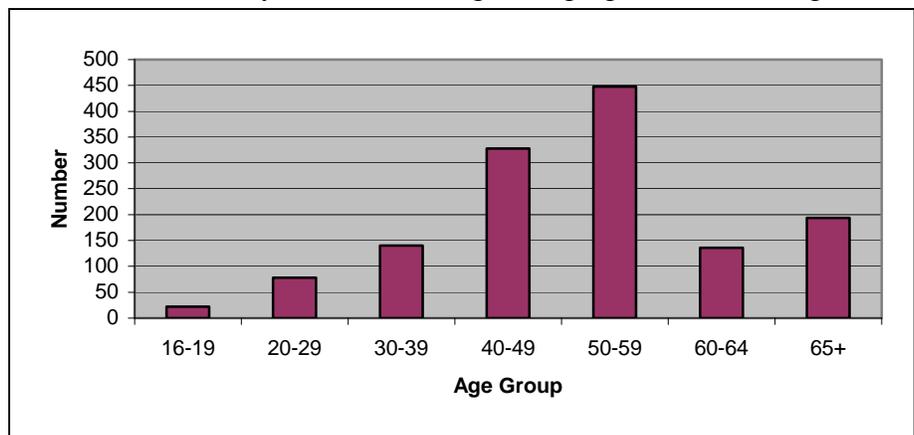


Figure 1.1 Age of 2004-2006 wild rice license holders, 2007.

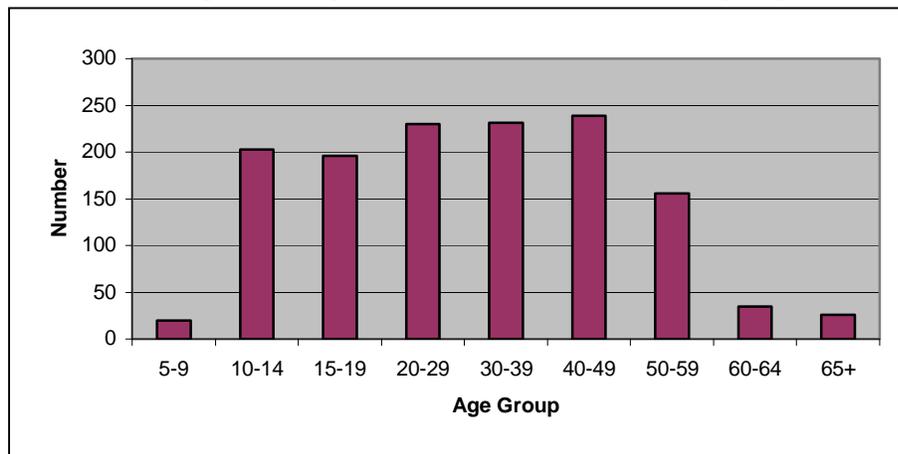
Those survey participants with more than 10 seasons of harvesting experience (n=509) have an average age of 56 years. Those with less than 10 seasons of experience are younger on average, but not by much, having an average age of 47.

Age Began Harvesting Wild Rice

Respondents began harvesting wild rice from 5 years of age to 79 years of age (Figure 1.2). The average at which wild rice harvesting began was 31 years of age. The most frequent ages at which harvesting began were 12 years of age (n=73), 40 years of age (n=72), 16 years of age (n=65), and 30 years of age (n=57).

Section 1 Characteristics of Minnesota Wild Rice Harvesters

When 2006 respondent age at which wild rice harvesting began is compared with harvest

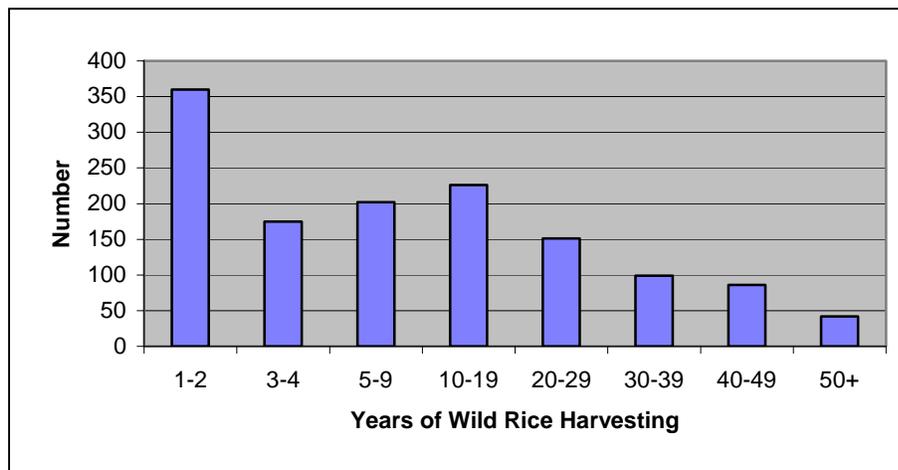


amounts, those harvesting less than 500 pounds of wild rice in 2006 had a beginning average age of 33 years, while those harvesting more than 500 pounds had a beginning average age of 20 years.

Figure 1.2. Age at which 2004-2006 wild rice license holders began to harvest wild rice, 2007.

Number of Seasons Harvested

Wild rice license holder respondents had an average of 13 seasons of experience harvesting wild



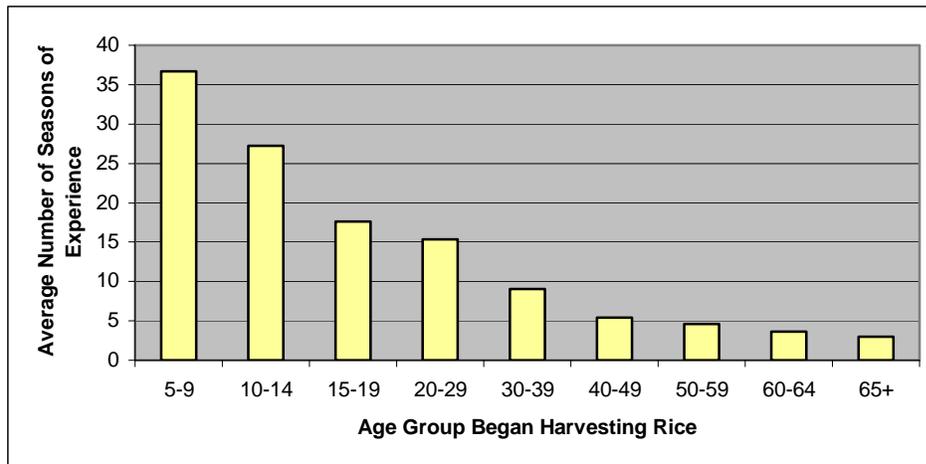
rice. About half (53%) of respondents had harvested for 10 seasons or less, and a third (33%) had harvested only one season (Figure 1.3).

Respondents from 2006 who harvested 500 pounds or more of rice had an average of 26 seasons of harvesting experience, while those who harvested less than 500 pounds averaged 12 seasons of experience.

Figure 1.3 Number of seasons 2004-2006 wild rice license holders have harvested wild rice, 2007.

Section 1 Characteristics of Minnesota Wild Rice Harvesters

The average number of seasons of experience harvesting wild rice for 2004-2006 respondents



increased considerably the younger they began to harvest rice (Figure 1.4), particularly if that introduction began prior to 15 years of age.

Figure 1.4. Age group of when 2004-2006 wild rice license holders began harvesting wild rice and average years of experience harvesting rice, 2007.

Introduction to Harvesting

Almost half (47.3%) of 2004-2006 respondents were introduced to wild rice harvesting by a friend, one-fifth (21.3%) by a parent, and a few by another family member (11.8%), themselves (11%), or a spouse (5.9%) (Figure 1.5). About two percent (2.1%) of respondents acknowledged Ojibwa band members and elders, jobs, conservation officers, family, college, friends, or a self-interest in the activity as introducing them to wild rice harvesting. Less than one percent of respondents were introduced to harvesting through a class or group.

One-half (51%) of 2006 respondents harvesting less than 500 pounds of wild rice identified a friend and one-third (30%) identified a parent or family member as having introduced them to wild rice harvesting. More than one-half (56%) of respondents harvesting more than 500 pounds of wild rice identified a parent or family member, and one-third (31%) identified a friend as introducing them to wild rice harvesting.

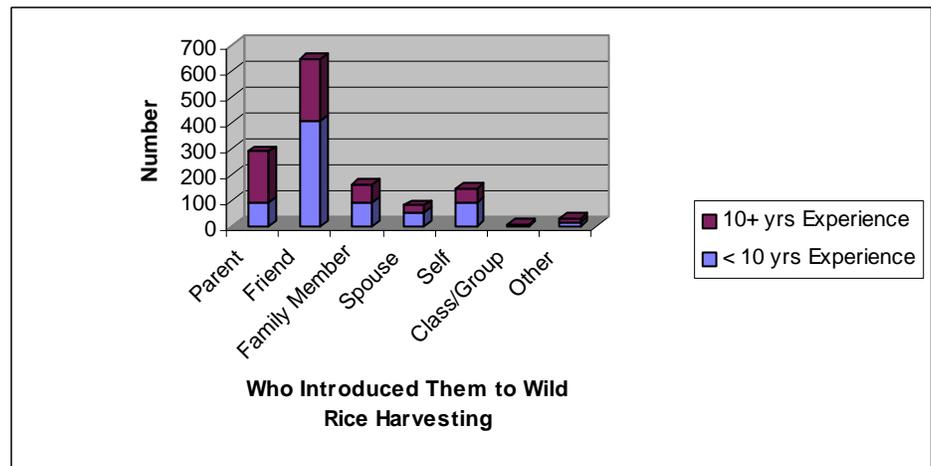


Figure 1.5. Individual who introduced wild rice harvesting to 2004-2006 wild rice license holders, 2007.

Section 1 Characteristics of Minnesota Wild Rice Harvesters

A large majority of respondents were introduced to wild rice harvesting by friends (47.3%); however, those respondents with 10 or more seasons of experience were more frequently introduced by a parent (33%) than those with less than 10 seasons (12%) (Figure 1-5).

Introducing Others to Harvesting

A majority (68.7%) of 2004-2006 wild rice license holder respondents have introduced others to gathering wild rice. The average number of people introduced to wild rice harvesting per respondent was six, with two being the most frequent answer, and the highest number being 500, from a teacher at a tribal school.

Wild rice license holder respondents who harvested over 500 pounds in 2006 were more likely (86%) than those harvesting less than 500 pounds (66%), to have introduced someone to harvesting.

Licensing

Depending on where people are harvesting, the licenses required vary by tribal association and residency. A large majority of 2004-2006 wild rice license holder respondents harvested rice under a state license (Table 1.1). Some tribal areas allow harvesting of wild rice by non-band members, but require an on-reservation license for state residents wishing to harvest. Tribal members are more frequently required to obtain multiple licenses based on where they plan to harvest, they are: off-reservation permit for treaty ceded lands, tribal licenses for reservation lakes, and state licenses for all others.

Table 1.1. Type of license(s) harvested under and number of people in each category, 2004-2006.			
State	Tribal	Off-reservation	Totals
X			1,163
X	X		99
X		X	34
X	X	X	28
		X	17
	X		6
	X	X	1

Section 2: 2006 Wild Rice Harvesting Experience

Findings

Questionnaire respondents in Part B of the Minnesota wild rice harvester survey were asked about their 2006 wild rice harvesting experiences. All 2006 wild rice license holders, and those license holders from 2004 and 2005 that did not purchase a 2006 license completed the first question (Appendix A, Question 9) in this portion of the survey. Only 2006 wild rice harvesters completed the entire portion of Part B (Appendix A, Questions 9-11). After responding to the first question in Part B, all respondents who did not harvest wild rice in 2006 were directed to move to Part C of the questionnaire, Regulation of Wild Rice Harvest, and continue completing Part D, Wild Rice Management.

Respondents who harvested wild rice in 2006 were asked about the quantities of rice harvested in a four-part question (Appendix A, Questions 10a-10d). In the harvest quantities question, respondents were asked not to include a partner's share in their response to prevent duplicating a partner's response. Then participants were asked to rate their satisfaction with the 2006 wild rice season on a 5-point scale (1=very dissatisfied, 2=slightly dissatisfied, 3=neither, 4=slightly satisfied, and 5=very satisfied).

Finally, in this part, 2006 harvesters were asked to report the lake/s or stream/s where they harvested rice, the county, the number of trips per basin, and the pounds of wild rice harvested. Wild rice harvesting trips across counties was reviewed to determine where harvest is concentrated in Minnesota. The pounds of rice per lake or stream (Appendix A, Question 12) did not equal the total reported in the harvest quantity question (Appendix A, Questions 10a-10d) and were abandoned for this report; however, the remaining data were utilized to come up with information on average number of trips, lake use, and overall pressure.

2006 Harvest

Sixty-six percent (65.9%) of 2004-2006 wild rice license holder respondents harvested wild rice in 2006.

More than three-quarters (78.8%) of 2006 wild rice harvesters reported harvesting 0-500 pounds of rice, while 13 percent reported 500-1,000 pounds, 6 percent reported 1,000-2,000 pounds; and 2 percent reported harvesting more than 2,000 pounds of wild rice. The average number of pounds of wild rice harvested per respondent was estimated by taking the median number of pounds within each weight range and multiplying it by the number of respondents in each range (e.g., 250 lbs x 707 respondents) then totaling the estimated number of pounds for each range, and then dividing the grand total pounds by the all question respondents. For the 2000+ pound range, 2000 pounds was used in lieu of the median. During 2006, wild rice harvesters harvested an estimated individual average of 430 pounds.

Section 2: 2006 Wild Rice Harvesting Experience

Only 15 percent (n=126) of 2006 wild rice harvesters reported selling all or a portion of unprocessed wild rice harvested. A large majority of harvesters (84.7%) did not sell any unprocessed wild rice. Of the respondents that sold unprocessed wild rice, the average was 768 pounds. An overall average of 117 pounds of rice was sold per 2006 wild rice harvester respondent.

More than nine out of ten 2006 wild rice harvesters (93%) had their rice processed, while only seven percent (n=59) did not have any rice processed. Those survey participants that processed rice averaged 298 pounds with an overall average of 277 pounds of rice processed per 2006 wild rice harvester respondent.

Based upon responses to the amount of wild rice kept for personal use (Appendix A, Question 10d), there appeared to be some confusion among respondents as to if the amount of wild rice processed in the previous question (Appendix A, Question 10c), was an unprocessed or processed rice weight. Because of this confusion, the amount of wild rice kept for personal use was estimated using the following method. The comprehensive responses for all questions requesting harvest quantity (Appendix A, Questions 10a-10d) were reviewed for each respondent. Each respondent was assigned an estimated percentage of wild rice kept (i.e., 25%, 50%, 75%, or 100%). The estimate was based upon the number of pounds processed, and assumed an average 40 percent weight loss during processing, to evaluate the proportion of wild rice kept. Based on the above interpretation, 71 percent of 2006 harvesters reported keeping an estimated 100 percent of the rice they had processed, while 25 percent reported keeping an estimated half or less of all rice processed. This suggests that the majority of 2006 wild rice harvesters harvest for their own personal use.

2006 Harvester Satisfaction

Over three-quarters of 2006 wild rice harvesters (82.3%) reported being satisfied (slightly or very) with their general wild rice harvesting experience, with only one in ten expressing dissatisfaction (10.8%)(Table 2-1). The overall mean satisfaction score was 4.24.

One-third of 2006 harvesters (34.3%) expressed satisfaction with the July 15 wild rice season opening date, while 30.9 percent were dissatisfied (slightly or very) and 34.8 percent were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the opening date (Table 2-1). The overall mean satisfaction score was 2.80.

Slightly over half of 2006 harvesters (56.5%) were satisfied (slightly or very) with the 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. wild rice season hours, while 31.7 percent were dissatisfied (slightly or very) (Table 2.1). The overall mean satisfaction score was 3.47.

Section 2: 2006 Wild Rice Harvesting Experience

Question	2006 Harvester		
	Very/Slightly Dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly/Very Satisfied
General Experience (n=882)	10.8%	6.9%	82.3%
July 15 Opening Date (n=878)	30.9%	34.8%	34.3%
9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hours (n=884)	31.7%	11.8%	56.5%
Other – Open-ended Response (n=177)	66.7%	14.7%	18.7%

About 20 percent of 2006 wild rice harvesters (n=207) listed other items regarding their satisfaction with the 2006 wild rice season (see Appendix E for items listed). Licensing issues were listed most often, followed by

season hours and water levels. Harvesting of green rice, the July season opening, and posting of wild rice lakes were also listed. Other issues identified included: need for processor information, lack of enforcement, dissatisfaction with management, a ban on cloning or genetically modified origin rice, weather, shoreline degradation, motor boats in the rice beds, and beaver control. The overall mean satisfaction score was 2.13.

2006 Harvest Locations

A total of 3,421 trips were reported by 845 harvesters, resulting in an average trip rate of 4 trips per person to gather wild rice. Sixty percent (60%) of 2006 harvesters took three or fewer trips, while 12 harvesters (1%) managed 20 or more trips. Multiple trips were made to the same lakes, as 50 percent of those responding reported harvesting on only one lake, and an additional 28 percent reported harvesting on two lakes. The average number of lakes visited for harvesting wild rice was 1.8 across all harvesters. The maximum number of lakes visited was six.

Rank	# Trips	Site	County
1	185	Mallard Lake	Aitkin
2	140	Flowage Lake	Aitkin
3	98	Big Sandy Lake	Aitkin
4	89	Natures Lake & Popple River	Itasca
5	78	Mississippi River	Crow Wing
6	77	Moose Lake	Aitkin
7	74	Mississippi River	Itasca
8	66	Breda	St. Louis
9	66	Vermillion River	Itasca
10	64	Big Rice Lake	St. Louis

During 2006, over two-thirds (2,413 total trips, 70.5%) of all wild rice harvesting trips were in Aitkin, St. Louis, Itasca, Crow Wing or Cass counties (See Figure 2.1 and Appendix F, Table F.2). The next five counties with the highest number of trips (698 total trips, 20.4%) were Becker, Clearwater, Beltrami, Lake and Hubbard counties. Out of 28 counties identified as being visited for wild rice harvesting, these top ten counties total 90.9 percent of all wild rice harvesting trips.

While 407 locations were

Section 2: 2006 Wild Rice Harvesting Experience

identified from the survey results to at least the county level, only 313 noted a specific name (i.e. lake name or river segment). Of these 313 locations, the top ten harvest locations based on harvest pressure (number of trips) are listed in Table 2.3. These lakes account for 27.4 percent of the total harvest pressure across the state. A further listing of the top harvesting locations representing 50 percent of total trips (32 locations) and 66 percent of total trips (64 locations) is noted in Appendix F, Table F.1. To improve the accuracy of location names noted by respondents, names were cross-referenced and edited through the use of the Minnesota Natural Wild Rice Inventory project (Minnesota DNR, 2007).

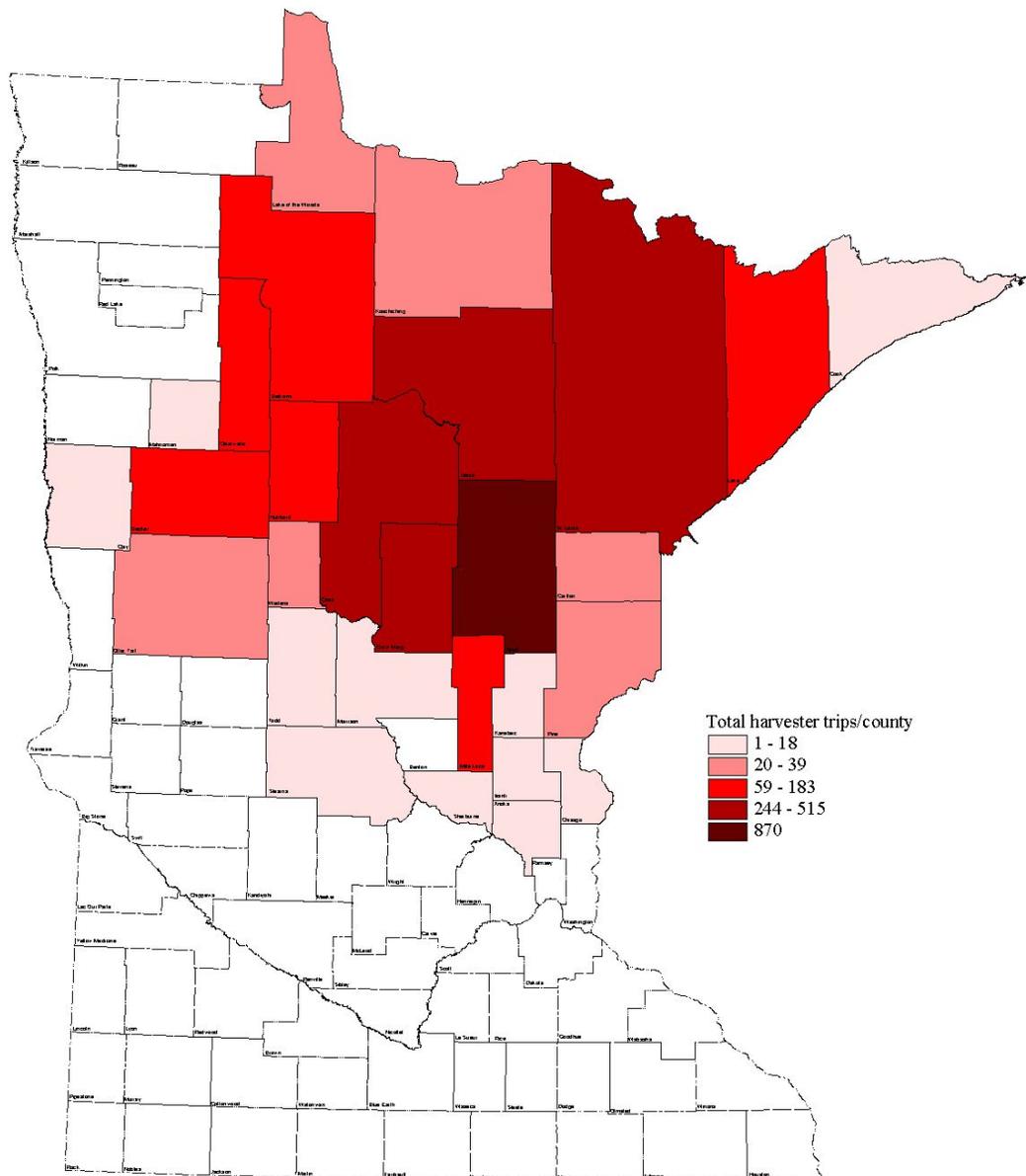


Figure 2.1 2006 Total Wild Rice Harvester Trips/County.

Section 3: Regulation of Wild Rice Harvest

Findings

In this section, Part C, four proposed regulation changes were suggested and respondents were asked whether they supported these changes. All 2006 wild rice license holders, and those license holders from 2004 and 2005 that did not purchase a 2006 license were asked to complete this portion of the survey (Appendix A, Questions 13-16). Survey responses for each question are under 'Total' in Table 3-1. Additionally, differences in survey responses between the 2004-2005 license holders that did not purchase a license in 2006 and 2006 license purchasers were also examined. Between license year classes there were no significant differences in the responses.

Harvesting Hours

About half (53%) of the respondents supported a change in harvesting hours to 10 a.m. to sunset (Table 3.1). There were a total of 498 comments, of which 272 were opposed to the proposed change. Of those not supporting the change in harvesting hours, at least half of the comments suggested alternative hours. However, for harvesting hours a greater percentage

Question	YES			NO		
	2004-2005	2006	Total	2004-2005	2006	Total
Harvesting Hours, 10 am to sunset (n=498 comments)	57% (n=249)	50% (n=434)	53% (n=683)	43% (n=188)	50% (n=428)	47% (n=616)
Harvest Start Date. August 14 (n=552 comments)	78% (n=333)	77% (n=647)	77% (n=980)	22% (n=93)	23% (n=195)	23% (n=287)
Watercraft Width, 38 inches wide (n=383 comments)	41% (n=180)	36% (n=301)	38% (n=481)	59% (n=259)	64% (n=540)	62% (n=799)
Nonresident license, 7-days (n=287 comments)	33% (n=142)	35% (n=297)	34% (n=439)	67% (n=293)	65% (n=549)	66% (n=842)

of 2004-2005 only harvester respondents agreed with the regulation change than 2006 purchasers (see Appendix G for comments about harvesting hours).

Those 2006 wild rice harvesters harvesting less than 500 lbs supported the proposed hours (52%) while those harvesting more than 500 lbs did not (57%) (Table 3.2). There were 56 and 132 comments from 2004-2005 only license purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively, regarding

Section 3: Regulation of Wild Rice Harvest

support for harvesting hour changes. There were 67 and 205 comments from 2004-2005 only license purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively that opposed harvesting hour changes (Appendix G).

Question	YES		NO	
	< 500 lbs	> 500 lbs	< 500 lbs	> 500 lbs
Harvesting Hours, 10 am to sunset	52% (n=356)	43% (n=81)	48% (n=321)	57% (n=103)
Harvest Start Date. August 14	78% (n=514)	74% (n=134)	22% (n=145)	26% (n=48)
Watercraft Width, 38 inches wide	36% (n=236)	35% (n=66)	64% (n=415)	65% (n=120)
Nonresident license, 7 days	37% (n=246)	29% (n=53)	63% (n=418)	71% (n=128)

Harvest Start Date

Three-fourths (77%) of the respondents supported changing the wild rice season opening from July 15 to August 14 (Table 3.1). There were no differences between license year classes (Table 3.1). This proposed change drew the most comments of all the regulation questions; there were 431 comments supporting this change and 121 opposing the change. There were no differences between license year classes in the range of comments (see Appendix H for comments about wild rice season start date).

There were no significant differences in those 2006 harvesters that harvested more than 500 pounds of wild rice and those who harvested less than 500 pounds in their support of the wild rice harvest start date (Table 3.2). There were 108 and 259 comments from 2004-2005 only purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively, regarding support for harvesting hour changes. There were 31 and 90 comments from 2004-2005 only purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively that opposed harvesting hour changes (Appendix H).

Over half the comments supporting the wild rice harvest start date of August 14 noted that the July 15 opening was too early. Many also considered the August 14 to be too early. Respondents who supported the change also believed that the later opening date would reduce individuals from harvesting green rice. Those not supporting an opening date change commented that it is illegal to harvest green rice so an opening date is meaningless. Some non-supporters believed that the later date would increase harvest pressure and increase the amount of green rice harvested.

Section 3: Regulation of Wild Rice Harvest

Watercraft Width

More than half (64%) of questionnaire participants opposed the use of watercraft up to 38 inches wide (Table 3.1). There were no differences between license year classes (Table 3.1). Based upon the comments regarding the width of watercraft regulation, there appeared to be a lack of understanding in regard to why this change was suggested and sometimes a concern for the type of boat for which it would be applied. There was also a difference of opinion as to what are current canoe widths, especially in regards to the newer ones. The majority (n=219) of comments did not support the change, and 110 comments supported the change to watercraft up to 38 inches in width (see Appendix I for comments about use of up to 38 inch width watercraft).

There were no significant differences in those 2006 harvesters that harvested more than 500 pounds of wild rice and those who harvested less than 500 pounds in their support of wild rice harvest start date (Table 3.2). However, for the width of watercraft, a greater percentage of 2006 license purchasers were opposed to the regulation change than 2004-2005 harvesters (Table 3.1). There were 60 and 159 comments from 2004-2005 only purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively that opposed changing the watercraft width to 38 inches. There were 39 and 82 comments from 2004-2005 only license purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively that supported the watercraft width change (Appendix I).

A majority of comments against the increase in watercraft size raised concerns about damage to rice and rice beds. The comments in support of the change were primarily regarding newer boats with widths of 37 inches, and improvement of stability and safety during harvesting with wider boats.

Nonresident License

Over half (66%) of 2004-2006 only license purchasers opposed establishing a 7-day nonresident license (Table 3.1). There were no differences between license year classes (Table 3.1). Of the regulation questions, nonresident licenses received the fewest comments overall (n=257) (see Appendix J for comments regarding a 7-day nonresident license).

Respondents harvesting more than 500 pounds of rice in 2006 were more likely to oppose a 7-day nonresident license (71%) than those harvesting less than 500 pounds (63%) (Table 3.2). There were 48 and 104 comments from 2004-2005 wild rice license holders and 2006 harvesters, respectively that opposed changing the nonresidents license to 7-days. There were 30 and 78 comments from 2004-2005 only license purchasers and 2006 purchasers, respectively, that supported the nonresident license length change (Appendix J).

A majority of comments opposing the 7-day nonresident license noted concerns about nonresidents using their license for commercial purposes, and believed that residents should be allowed exclusive rights to wild rice. Those respondent comments supporting the 7-day nonresident license were interested in nonresident family and friends being able to participate, nonresident licenses helping reduce resident license fees, and lack of current harvest pressure (Appendix J).

Section 4: Wild Rice Harvest Management

Findings

Four harvest management questions were asked of wild rice license holders in Part D. The questions concerned factors limiting harvest, harvest information, and wild rice management priorities (Appendix A, Questions 17-20). Participants were asked to rank their choices, with one given the highest rank.

Respondents both numerically ranked and/or used check marks to identify chosen items. To accommodate both response types, numerically ranked information is provided in charts, while summary data, based on numerical and checked responses, is highlighted in tables. The only item showing a difference in results between the two approaches was the information needs question (Appendix A, Question 18), where processor contact list, where and when to harvest all received high numbers and ranks. License year class information is provided both in a ranking chart and in the comments section for “other.”

An open-ended response option was provided for all four management questions, and comments are provided in Appendices K-N. All 2006 wild rice license purchasers, and those license holders from 2004 and 2005 that did not purchase a 2006 license were asked to complete this portion (Part D) of the survey.

Harvest Limiting Factors

Table 4.1. Barriers of 2004-2006 wild rice license holders to harvesting wild rice, 2007.		
Rank	2004-2005 License Respondents	2006 License Respondents
#1	<i>Time</i>	<i>Time</i>
#2	<i>Finding a Processor</i>	<i>Where to harvest (2nd - tie)</i>
#3	<i>When to harvest</i>	<i>When to harvest (2nd -tie)</i>
#4	<i>Where to harvest</i>	<i>Finding a Processor</i>
#5	<i>Finding a Partner</i>	<i>Finding a Partner</i>
#6	<i>Physical Challenge</i>	<i>Physical Challenge</i>
#7	<i>Financial Expense</i>	<i>Other</i>
#8	<i>Other</i>	<i>Financial Expense</i>
#9	<i>Finding a Buyer</i>	<i>None</i>
#10	<i>Proper Equipment</i>	<i>Finding a Buyer</i>
#11	<i>None</i>	<i>Proper Equipment</i>

Among all respondents, the greatest barrier to wild rice harvesting is finding time to participate, followed by knowing when to harvest, knowing where to harvest, and finding a rice processor (Appendix D). Wild rice license holders from 2004 and 2005 that didn't obtain a license in 2006 differed by

ranking finding a processor higher than 2006 harvesters (Table 4.1). The “Other” category received 230 comments (see Appendix K for other barriers to wild rice harvesting).

Section 4: Wild Rice Harvest Management

A majority of other responses were regarding the cost of licenses. Most comments were aimed at the resident seasonal license but also mentioned were the one-day, commercial and nonresident license. Adding fuel and transportation costs made it even more prohibitive for some. Also, quality of the rice on any given year, especially the low water in 2006 made it difficult for people to gain access to rice beds or served as a disincentive. Access, also noted in the other category, was focused primarily on gaining access to private or reservation lakes. Time and other commitments was the largest factor identified for limiting people’s ability to harvest wild rice (Appendix K).

Harvest Information Needs

Overall questionnaire participants ranked having a wild rice processors list as the primary information that would help them continue to harvest wild rice, followed by information on when to harvest, and where to harvest wild rice (Figure 4-1 and Appendix D). These same items were ranked high regarding the barriers to continue wild rice harvesting, along with time as the greatest barrier. For respondents who did not harvest wild rice in 2006, information about wild rice processors ranked higher than those that harvested in 2006, and where to harvest ranked higher than the processors list for 2006 harvesters (Table 4.2).

In the ranked data (Figure 4-1), a high proportion of respondents utilized check marks (“6”) instead of a numeric ranks. This is what influenced the differences between Table 4.2 and Figure 4-1.

Table 4.2. Information that would aid 2004-2006 wild rice license holders in continuing to harvest wild rice by year of license, 2007.		
Rank	2004-2005 License Respondents	2006 License Respondents
#1	<i>When to harvest</i>	<i>When to harvest</i>
#2	<i>Processor list</i>	<i>Where to harvest</i>
#3	<i>Where to harvest</i>	<i>Processor list</i>
#4	<i>Buyer list</i>	<i>Buyer list</i>
#5	<i>How to harvest</i>	<i>How to harvest</i>

Section 4: Wild Rice Harvest Management

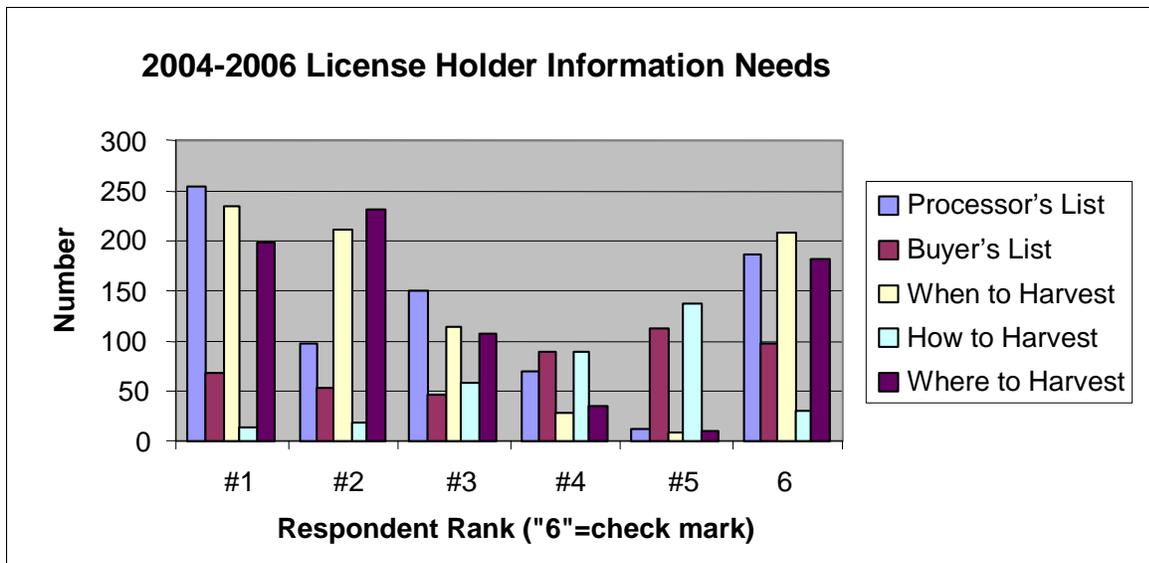


Figure 4.1. Rank of information that would aid in continuing to harvest wild rice for all 2004-2006 license holders, 2007.

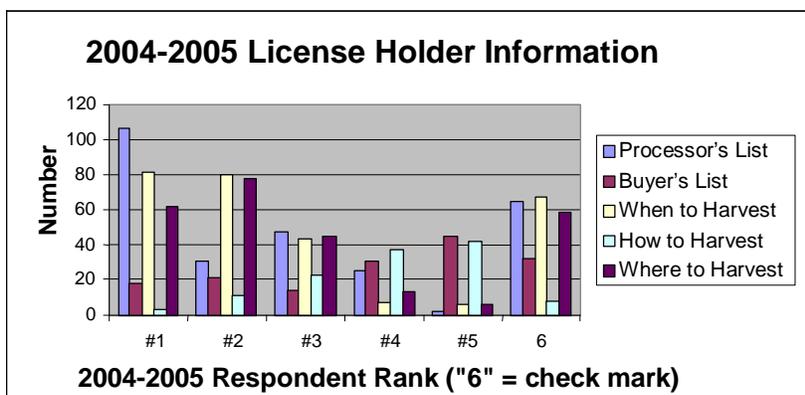


Figure 4.2 Rank of information that would aid in continuing to harvest wild rice for 2004-2005 license holders, 2007.

other information needs).

Resources to Deliver Information

The DNR web site was selected by responders, followed by a wild rice harvesting pamphlet, and a wild rice section in the annual DNR hunting regulations book (Figure 4.3). Responses were the same for both respondent numeric rank and selection using a check mark, and for both 2004-2005 only license purchasers and 2006 license purchasers (Figure 4.4 and 4.5). One hundred and forty comments were provided other means to deliver information to wild rice harvesters (see Appendix M for other means to deliver information).

The largest number of comments identified no need for additional information, this comment came primarily from 2006 harvesters.

Respondents who requested other types of information identified lake lists as a resource, and reinforced the desire to have more information regarding when and where to harvest. Posting was also highlighted as a means for determining when to harvest (see Appendix L for

Section 4: Wild Rice Harvest Management

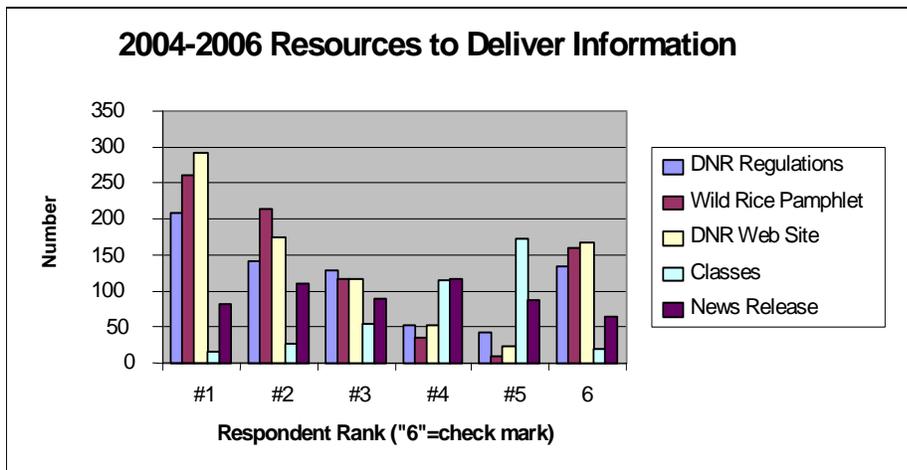


Figure 4.3 Rank of resources to deliver wild rice information for all 2004-2006 license holders, 2007.

noted. Harvesters from 2006 added that a web site should include “up to the minute” information, opening dates, harvesting reports, water levels and aerial surveys of lakes. Additional suggestions included a 1-800 number to call that would give local rice conditions and open rice beds. Several harvesters raised concerns of over crowding if where to harvest was published, on a web site or in the newspaper (see Appendix M for other means to deliver information).

A majority of comments from 2004-2005 license holders noted web site resources as being important, with several harvesters mentioning the 1854 Treaty Authority web site as a good example. Local newspapers and pamphlets were also suggested, with a wild rice hotline, and signage at lakes being

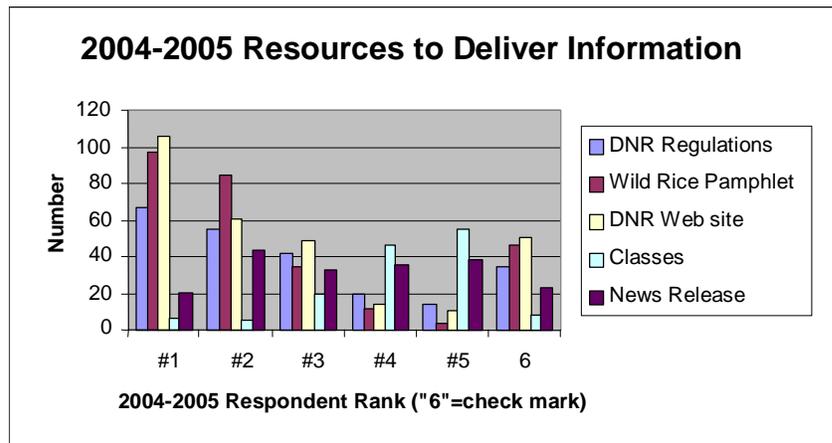


Figure 4.4 Rank of resources to deliver wild rice information for 2004-2005 license holders, 2007.

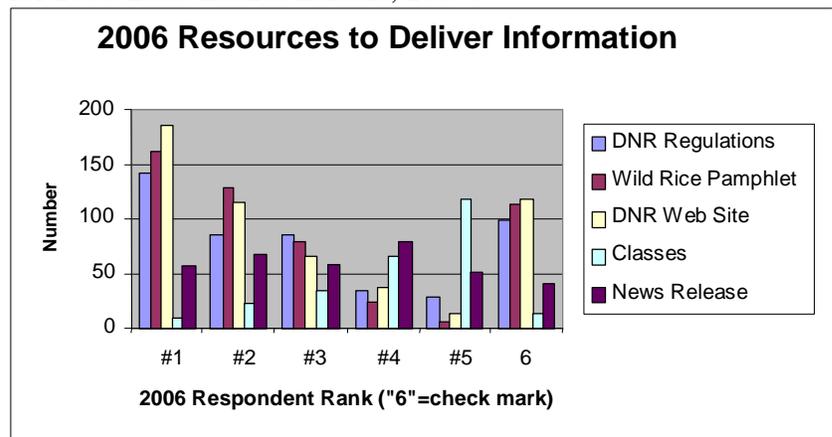


Figure 4.5 Rank of resources to deliver wild rice information for 2006 harvesters, 2007.

Section 4: Wild Rice Harvest Management

Wild Rice Management Priorities

A large majority of the respondents ranked water level management as needing the highest management priority, followed by availability of information (Figure 4-6). Seeding ranked third, while enforcement of regulations, access site improvement, and wild rice research were ranked fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively (Figure 4.6). Responses were the same across license year classes and by numeric rank and check mark selection (Figure 4.7 and 4.8).

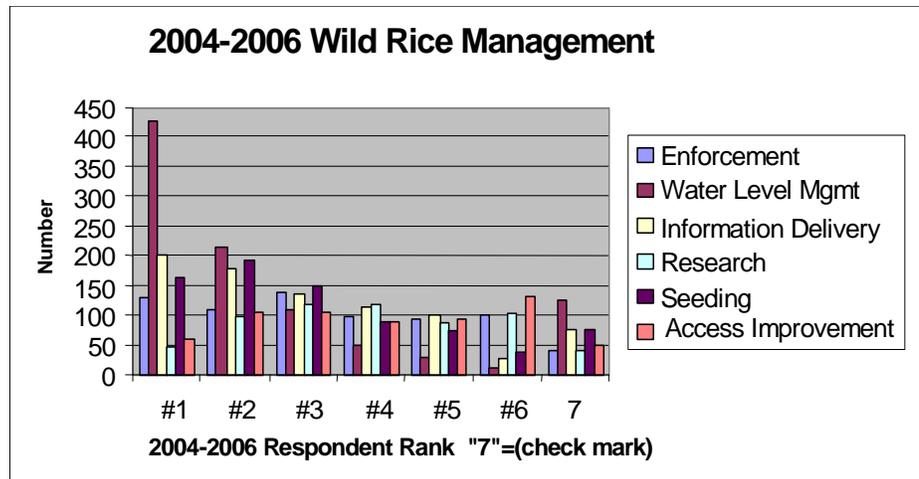


Figure 4.6. Rank of wild rice management priorities for all 2004-2006 license holders, 2007.

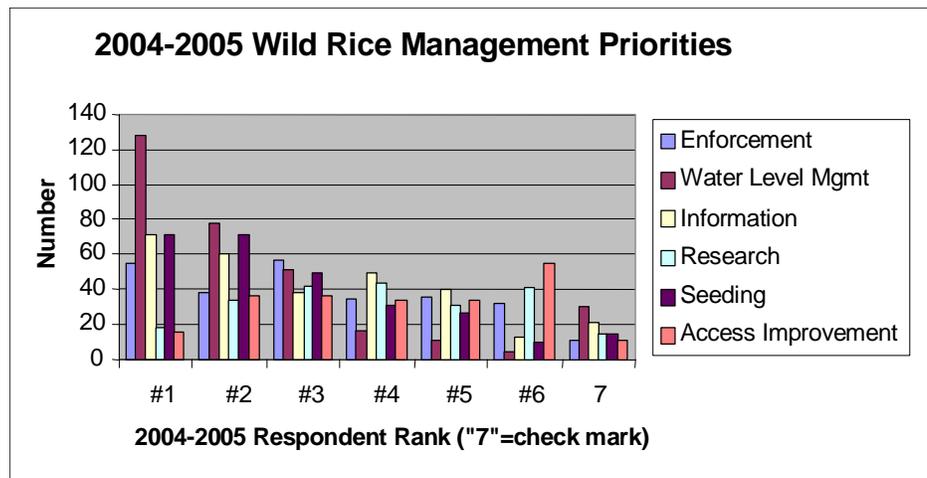


Figure 4.7. Rank of wild rice management priorities for 2004-2005 license holders, 2007.

Section 4: Wild Rice Harvest Management

Respondent provided 314 comments regarding other management priorities (see Appendix N for other wild rice management priorities). The most extensive comments concerning other management priorities were protection from genetically modified rice, increased habitat protection and excessive license fees for all respondents. In comments throughout this questionnaire harvesters do not support genetically engineered rice being grown in Minnesota. In the area of habitat protection, comments call for restrictions on shoreline development, protection from motorized watercraft, preventing removal of rice, and management of specific historical lakes as wild rice lakes. Also noted was the need for lower fees for those harvesting for personal use only.

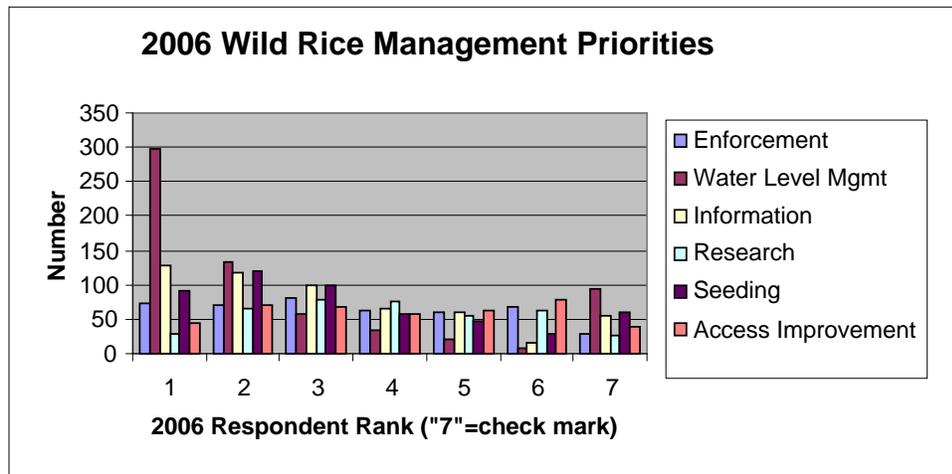


Figure 4.8. Rank of wild rice management priorities for 2006 harvesters, 2007.

Section 5: Conclusions

Wild rice harvester license sales have declined steadily since the 1980's. The MNDNR initiated a self administered, mail questionnaire to examine the characteristics, needs, barriers to participation, and opinions of wild rice harvester's in the state. The results indicate that a large majority (82%) of current harvesters are 40 years of age and older. Based on the 2005 estimated population of Minnesota, 45 percent of residents are age 40 and older (U.S. Census Bureau 2006). A significantly greater proportion of wild rice harvesters than the states general population are more than 40 years old or older. As current wild rice harvesters age they are more likely to watch wildlife and less likely to participate in outdoor recreation (Minnesota Department of Administration 2006). The current age of the wild rice license holder population is a serious concern for recruitment of wild rice harvesters. On the other hand the variability in the age of initiation to harvesting lends hope to the possibilities of recruiting new harvesters at nearly any age.

In addition, based on population projections from 2005 to 2015, Minnesota's population is projected to grow by approximately 10 percent. However, this growth will occur substantially in the Twin Cities suburbs and those areas still within the Twin Cities commuting area. By 2020, it is projected that 68 percent of Minnesota's population will live within three metropolitan areas, they are: Twin Cities, Rochester and St. Cloud. Also, many rural counties in the state are projected to lose population in the next decade, although modest population increases are anticipated in the central lakes region of Minnesota (McMurry 2007). Since typical participants in outdoor recreation are rural residents, this population growth primarily in urban areas is also a serious concern for recruitment of wild rice harvesters.

These age and population projections highlight the need to recruit wild rice harvesters, and increase the introduction of wild rice harvesting to young people. Study results show that a majority of the respondents have introduced others to gathering wild rice. Few new harvesters were introduced by classes or courses, which reflects the few opportunities available.

The results of the questionnaire demonstrate the need to offer information about when and where to harvest, and to develop a wild rice processors list. Prospective wild rice gatherers may have an interest in gathering rice; however, without a means to process the rice they may decide not to participate because they neither have the knowledge of how to process the rice themselves nor knowledge of where to have the rice processed. This appears to be a participation barrier for those people who obtained licenses in 2004 or 2005 but did not harvest in 2006. Survey respondents noted that information on where and when to harvest should be available on the MNDNR web site, and an announcement of the web site information should be provided in the hunting regulation handbook.

A majority of the respondents supported moving the season opener to August 14. Participation by families is important as license holders with 10 or more seasons of experience were more often introduced to wild rice gathering by a parent. Survey respondents were opposed (64%) to the use of 38-inch wide watercraft and establishing a 7-day nonresident license. They were also

Section 5: Conclusions

divided in regard to suggested changes in harvesting hours from the current 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to 10 a.m. to sunset.

Survey participant's understand the need for water level management for improved wild rice production, and support the use of license fees for this type of management.

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Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter

Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter



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Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter

Minnesota Wild Rice Harvester Survey



A. Information about you

- 1 Are you a **Minnesota resident**? Yes No (*check one*)
- 2 **Age:** _____
- 3 **Gender:** male female
- 4 **License(s)** you have harvested wild rice under (*check all that apply*):
 state tribal off-reservation permit
- 5 At what age did you **begin** harvesting wild rice? _____
- 6 Who **introduced** you to wild rice harvesting? (*check only one*)
 Parent Friend Other (*please specify*) _____
 Family member (not a parent) Self _____
 Spouse Organized class or group _____
- 7 Have you introduced others to wild rice harvesting? Yes No (*check one*)
 If yes, how many? _____
- 8 Total number of **years** you have harvested wild rice: _____ (*estimate if unsure*)

B. Harvesting Experience

- 9 Did you harvest wild rice in **2006**? Yes No (*if No, go to Question 13*)
- 10 a. Approximately how many pounds of green/unprocessed rice did you harvest?
DO NOT include your partner's share, if applicable.
 0-500 lbs. 500 – 1,000 lbs. 1,000 – 2,000 lbs. 2,000+ lbs.
- b. Approximately how many pounds did you sell as green/unprocessed wild rice? _____
- c. Approximately how many pounds did you process or have processed? _____
- d. Of the processed wild rice listed under c., how much did you keep for personal use?

- 11 During the 2006 wild rice season, how **satisfied or dissatisfied** were you with the following?
 (*Please circle one response for each.*)

	Very dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Very satisfied
a. General experience	1	2	3	4	5
b. July 15 opening date	1	2	3	4	5
c. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. hours	1	2	3	4	5
d. Other (<i>list below</i>)	1	2	3	4	5

- 12 **The location of wild rice lakes/streams you harvested on is important for purposes of ongoing and future management.** Please assist us by completing the following information regarding all rice harvested under your **2006 license**: waters you harvested rice on; county they're located in; and number of trips per lake/stream.

	Number of lakes/streams harvested (names optional)	County	Number of trips
<i>Example</i>	<i>Irving Lake</i>	<i>Beltrami</i>	<i>2</i>

Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter

1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

C. Regulation of wild rice harvest

The following questions deal with current season regulations and potential legislative issues.

- 13 Harvesting hours are currently 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Would you support a change in harvesting hours to 10 a.m. to sunset? Yes No (check one)
 Comment? _____
- 14 Harvest of ripe wild rice can currently begin July 15. Do you support changing this start date to August 14? Yes No (check one)
 Comment? _____
- 15 Watercraft wider than 36 inches cannot be used in harvesting wild rice under current regulations. Do you support a change allowing watercraft up to 38 inches wide? Yes No (check one)
 Comment? _____
- 16 Nonresidents are currently restricted to purchasing one-day licenses. Do you support establishing a 7-day nonresident license? Yes No (check one)
 Comment? _____

D. Wild rice management

- 17 What are the most important **factors** limiting your ability to harvest wild rice?
 (please check the 3 most important)
- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finding a rice processor | <input type="checkbox"/> Knowing where to harvest | <input type="checkbox"/> Time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finding a buyer | <input type="checkbox"/> Having proper equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knowing when to harvest | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical challenge | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial expense | <input type="checkbox"/> Finding a partner | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |
- 18 Which of the following types of **information** would help you to continue harvesting wild rice?
 (please rank, with 1 being the highest)
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Processor contact list | <input type="checkbox"/> Buyer contact list | <input type="checkbox"/> When to harvest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How to harvest | <input type="checkbox"/> Where to harvest | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |
- 19 Which of the following **resources** would be the best way to deliver the information you identified in Q. 18? (please rank, with 1 being the highest)
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild rice section in annual DNR Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook | <input type="checkbox"/> Training/Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Separate Wild Rice Harvesting pamphlet | <input type="checkbox"/> News release |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DNR web site | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |
- 20 Wild rice license sales provide funds for **management**. Of the management options listed below, which do you feel should be a priority? (please rank, with 1 being highest)
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement of regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Seeding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water level management | <input type="checkbox"/> Access site improvement |

Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter

- Availability of information (i.e. web site, lake lists, processor info)
- Research
- Other: _____

Questions should be directed to Ray Norrgard, MN DNR, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651 259-5227, ray.norrgard@dnr.state.mn.us OR Annette Drewes, P.O. Box 1528, Bemidji, MN 56619, 218-368-5050, aldrewes@wisc.edu.

Please return this questionnaire as soon as possible to the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources. We have designed this form for your convenience. After you have completed the survey, fold to show our address, tape closed and mail. No postage is necessary if mailed in the United States. Thank you for your help in managing Minnesota's wild rice resource.

Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter



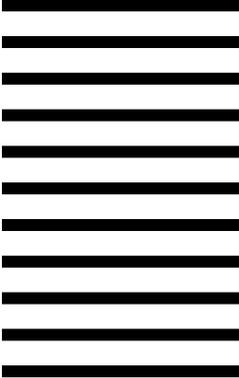
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Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter

November, 2006

Dear Wild Rice Permit Holder,

Our records indicate that you purchased a Minnesota license for harvesting wild rice within the past three years. Your experience and insight as a harvester are important to us in understanding current trends and practices in wild rice harvest. Attached is a short two-page survey.

Information gained from this survey will be used to evaluate current harvest trends and potential legislative changes for wild rice harvest and management. When combined with research efforts currently taking place through the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies (UW), this survey will help provide a regional view of wild rice harvest and management across Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Wild rice habitat is under increasing pressure from development, land use changes and motorized recreational activities. Over the past twenty years there has been a downward trend in license sales in Minnesota. Cooperation and commitment are essential to protecting and sustaining a continued rice harvesting culture. **Please take a few minutes to complete the attached questionnaire. Return it by folding and taping so the address for the MN Department of Natural Resources is clearly visible. No postage is necessary if mailed in the United States.** If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Ray Norrgard (DNR) or Annette Drewes (UW). The contact information is at the end of the survey.

Thanks again for your participation in this effort to conserve a resource unique to this region!

Sincerely,

Ray Norrgard
Wetland Wildlife Program Leader
MN DNR
500 Lafayette Rd.,
St. Paul, MN 55155
651 259-5227,
ray.norrgard@dnr.state.mn.us

Appendix A: Survey Instrument and Initial Mailing Cover Letter

You are invited.... to create a voice for Mahnomen/Wild Rice

In February and March, 2007, harvesters from across Minnesota and Wisconsin will gather to discuss the development of a wild rice advisory circle. The purpose of this group is to create a regional network of communication and advocacy for the protection of natural wild rice and the harvesting culture it supports.

Six sessions will be held across the region. We are in the process of identifying locations and dates. If you are interested in attending and would like to be notified of the session times, please contact Annette Drewes, either by email at aldrewes@wisc.edu or by mail at: **P.O. Box 1528, Bemidji MN 56619.**

Funding and support for this effort provided through the Nelson Institute of Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin – Madison and a Community Forestry Research Fellowship out of the College of Natural Resources, UC-Berkeley

Appendix B: Nonrespondent First Reminder Mailing Cover Letter

Appendix B: Nonrespondent First Reminder Mailing Cover Letter

January, 2007

Dear Wild Rice Permit Holder, **REMINDER**

We recently sent you a questionnaire requesting information about your wild rice harvesting experience in Minnesota. We have not yet received your response. Perhaps it was lost or damaged in the mail.

Our records indicate that you purchased a Minnesota license for harvesting wild rice within the past three years. Your experience and insight as a harvester are important to us in understanding current trends and practices in wild rice harvest. Attached is a short two-page survey. Information gained from this survey will be used to evaluate current harvest trends and potential legislative changes for wild rice harvest and management. When combined with research efforts currently taking place through the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies (UW), this survey will help provide a regional view of wild rice harvest and management across Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Wild rice habitat is under increasing pressure from development, land use changes and motorized recreational activities. Over the past twenty years there has been a downward trend in license sales in Minnesota. Cooperation and commitment are essential to protecting and sustaining a continued rice harvesting culture. **Please take a few minutes to complete the attached questionnaire. Return it by folding and taping so the address for the MN Department of Natural Resources is clearly visible. No postage is necessary if mailed in the United States.** If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Ray Norrgard (DNR) or Annette Drewes (UW). The contact information is at the end of the survey.

Thanks again for your participation in this effort to conserve a resource unique to this region!

Sincerely,

Ray Norrgard
Wetland Wildlife Program Leader
MN DNR
500 Lafayette Rd.,
St. Paul, MN 55155
651 259-5227,
rav.norrgard@dnr.state.mn.us

**Appendix C: Nonrespondent Second Reminder Mailing Cover
Letter**

Appendix C: Nonrespondent Second Reminder Mailing Cover Letter

February, 2007

Dear Wild Rice Permit Holder, **SECOND REMINDER**

We recently sent you a questionnaire requesting information about your wild rice harvesting experience in Minnesota. Many surveys have been received. But we still would like your information to get an accurate picture of wild rice harvesting in Minnesota. This will be our last attempt to contact you for this survey.

Our records indicate that you purchased a Minnesota license for harvesting wild rice within the past three years. Your experience and insight as a harvester are important to us in understanding current trends and practices in wild rice harvest. Attached is a short two-page survey. Information gained from this survey will be used to evaluate current harvest trends and potential legislative changes for wild rice harvest and management. When combined with research efforts currently taking place through the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies (UW), this survey will help provide a regional view of wild rice harvest and management across Minnesota and Wisconsin.

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**Appendix D: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Percentage Response and
Number of Observations, 2007**

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Minnesota Wild Rice Harvester Survey

A. Information about you

- Q. 1** Are you a **Minnesota resident?** (n=1,355)
 Yes n=1,333 (**98.4%**) **No** (check one) n=22 (**1.6%**) n=10 unclear or no response
- Q. 2** **Age: average of 50.8 years of age** (n=1,345) n=20 unclear or no response
- Q. 3** **Gender:** (n=1,355)
 male n=1,114 (**82.2%**) female n=241 (**17.8%**) n=10 unclear or no response
- Q. 4** **License(s)** you have harvested wild rice under (check all that apply):
 state n=1,323 tribal n=134 off-reservation permit n=80 18 unclear or no response
- State only – n=1,163
State and Tribal – n=99
State and Off-reservation – n=34
State, Tribal and Off-reservation – n=28
Tribal only – n=6
Tribal and Off-reservation – n=1
Off-reservation only – n=17
- Q. 5** At what age did you **begin** harvesting wild rice? average of 31.4 (n=1,335)
n=30 unclear or no response
- Q. 6** Who **introduced** you to wild rice harvesting? (check only one) (n=1,358)
 Parent n=289 (**21.3%**) Friend n=643 (**47.3%**) Other (please specify) n=29 (**2.1%**)
 Family member (not a parent) n=160 (**11.8%**) Self n=149 (**11.0%**)
 Spouse n=81 (**5.9%**) Organized class or group n=7 (**.5%**)
- Q. 7** Have you introduced others to wild rice harvesting? (n=1,344)
 Yes n=924 (**68.7%**) **No** (check one) n=420 (**31.3%**) n=21 unclear or no response
- If yes, how many? **total of 5,643 for an average of 6.3**
- Q. 8** Total number of **years** (seasons) you have harvested wild rice: **average of 13.3 years** (n=1,340)

Appendix D: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Percentage Response and Number of Observations, 2007.

B. Harvesting Experience

Q. 9 Did you harvest wild rice in **2006**? (n=1,360)

Yes n=897 (**65.9%**) No n=463 (**34.1%**) (if No, go to Q 13) n=5 unclear or no response

Q. 10 a. Approximately how many pounds did you harvest? *DO NOT include your partner's share, if applicable.* (n=897)

0-500 lbs. n=707 (**78.8%**) **500 – 1,000 lbs.** n=116 (**12.9%**) **1,000 – 2,000 lbs.** n=52 (**5.8%**) **2,000+ lbs.** n=22 (**2.5%**)

430 lb average per respondent

b. Approximately how many pounds did you sell as green/unprocessed wild rice? (n=824)

768 lb. Average of those who sold rice. n=126 (**15.3%**)

Sold 0 lb n=698 (**84.7%**)

117 lb. Overall Average n=73 unclear or no response

c. Approximately how many pounds did you process or have processed? (n=846)

298 lb. Average of those who processed rice. n=787 (**93.0%**)

Processed 0 lb. n=59 (**7.0%**)

277 lb. Overall Average n=51 unclear or no response

d. Of the processed wild rice listed under c., how much did you keep for personal use? Based on responses to Questions 10d, there appeared to be some confusion among respondents regarding if wild rice processed, in Question 10c, was a green or processed rice weight. Therefore, data for Question 10d was interpreted by looking at comprehensive responses from questions 10a-c for each respondent. The estimate was based upon the number of pounds processed, and assumed an average 40% weight loss during processing, to evaluate the response to question 10d. Based on the evaluation, a percentage of wild rice kept was assigned at 25%, 50%, 75%, or 100%. Below is a summary of the estimated percentage of processed rice kept by the respondents.

25% kept - n=78 or (10.6%) 50% kept – n=107 or (14.6%) 75% kept – n=23 or (3.2%) 100% kept - n=523 or (71.5%)

Q. 11 During the 2006 wild rice season, how **satisfied or dissatisfied** were you with the following? (Please circle one response for each.)

	Very dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Very sat..
a. General experience (n=882)	1 5.0%	2 5.8%	3 6.9%	4 24.8%	5 57.5%
b. July 15 opening date (n=878)	1 22.6%	2 8.3%	3 34.8%	4 9.7%	5 24.6%

Appendix D: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Percentage Response and Number of Observations, 2007.

c. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. hours (n=884)	1 13.3%	2 18.4%	3 11.8%	4 21.1%	5 35.4%
d. Other (<i>list below</i>) (n=207) (See Appendix E for list of Other responses.)	1 53.7%	2 13.0%	3 14.7%	4 3.4%	5 15.3%

Q. 12 The location of wild rice lakes/streams you harvested on is important for purposes of ongoing and future management. Please assist us by completing the following information regarding all rice harvested under your **2006 license**: waters you harvested rice on; county they're located in; number of trips per county; and pounds of rice (unprocessed) harvested by you. *DO NOT include your partner's share, if applicable.*
(n=861) n=36 unclear or no response

	Number of lakes/streams harvested (names optional)	County	Number of trips	Pounds of rice harvested
<i>Example</i>	<i>2- Irving and the Little Green River</i>	<i>Beltrami</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>60 (unprocessed)</i>
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Rough count shows 861 responses that list 313 different lakes/streams for a total of 3,151 trips. (see Appendix F for full list of lakes and trips.)

C. Regulation of wild rice harvest

The following questions deal with current season regulations and potential legislative issues regarding wild rice.

Q. 13 Harvesting hours are currently 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Would you support a change in harvesting hours to 10 a.m. to sunset? (n=1,303)
 Yes n=685 (52.5%) **No (check one)** n=618 (47.5%) n=63 unclear or no response
 n=498 comments (see Appendix G for comments about harvesting hours.)

Q. 14 Harvest of ripe wild rice can currently begin July 15. Do you support changing this start date to August 14?
 Yes n=982 (77.2%) **No (check one)** (n=1,271) n=289 (22.8%) n=94 unclear or no response
 n=552 comments (see Appendix H for comments about season start date.)

Appendix D: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Percentage Response and Number of Observations, 2007.

Q. 15 Watercraft wider than 36 inches cannot be used in harvesting wild rice under current regulations. Do you support a change allowing watercraft up to 38 inches wide? (n=1,281)

Yes **No** (*check one*)
n=482 (37.6%) n=799 (62.4%) n=85 unclear or no response
n=381 comments (see Appendix I for comments about watercraft width.)

Q. 16 Nonresidents are currently restricted to purchasing one-day licenses. Do you support establishing a 7-day nonresident license? (n=1,284)

Yes **No** (*check one*)
440 (34.3%) 844 (65.7%) n=82 unclear or no response
n=287 comments (see Appendix J for comments about nonresident licenses.)

D. Wild rice management

Q. 17 What is the biggest **barrier** you face to continue your harvest of wild rice? (*please rank, with 1 being highest*) Below is the order of #1 rankings.

#4 Finding a rice processor	#3 Knowing where to harvest	#9 None
#8 Finding a buyer	#10 Having proper equipment	#1 Time
#2 Knowing when to harvest	#6 Physical challenge	
#7 Financial expense	#5 Finding a partner	

n=230 comments (see Appendix K for comments about barriers to harvesting.)

Q. 18 Which of the following **information** would help you to continue harvesting wild rice? (*please rank, with 1 being the highest*) Below is the order of #1 rankings.

#1 Processor contact list	#4 Buyer contact list	#2 When to harvest
#5 How to harvest	#3 Where to harvest	

n=231 comments (see Appendix L for comments about information needs.)

Q. 19 Which of the following **resources** would be the best way to deliver the information you identified in Q. 11? (*please rank, with 1 being the highest*) Below is the order of #1 rankings.

#3 Wild rice section in annual DNR Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook	
#2 Separate Wild Rice Harvesting pamphlet	#5 Training/Classes
#1 DNR web site	#4 News release

n=140 comments (see Appendix M for comments about delivering resources.)

Appendix D: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Percentage Response and Number of Observations, 2007.

Q. 20 Wild rice license sales provide funds for **management**. Of the management options listed below, which do you feel should be a priority? (*please rank, with 1 being highest*)

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| #4 Enforcement of regulations | #3 Seeding |
| #1 Water level management | #5 Access site improvement |
| #2 Availability of information (i.e. web site, lake lists, processor info) | |
| #6 Research | |

n=314 comments (see Appendix N for comments about management.)

Please return this questionnaire to the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources in the enclosed prepaid envelope. Thank you for your help in managing Minnesota's wild rice resource. Questions should be directed to Ray Norrgard, MN DNR, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651 259-5227, ray.norrgard@dnr.state.mn.us OR Annette Drewes, P.O. Box 1528, Bemidji, MN 56619, 218-368-5050, aldrewes@wisc.edu.

**Appendix E: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about 2006 Harvest Experiences, 2007**

Appendix E: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about 2006 Harvest Experiences, 2007

	RANK 1=Very Dissatisfied 2=Dissatisfied 3=Neither 4=Slightly Satisfied 5=Very Satisfied	2006 Harvester Comments about 2006 Wild Rice Season Experiences
1.	No rank noted	A hell of a lot of work.
2.	No rank noted	I heard there were no posted hours this year.
3.	No rank noted	July opening date.
4.	No rank noted	Because of our regulations unable to get out.
5.	No rank noted	Water levels are low, license too high.
6.	No rank noted	Open daylight to dark
7.	No rank noted	Change 1-day license to a 2-day license (weekend).
8.	No rank noted	July 15th might as well be Jan. 1 or Feb. 1
9.	No rank noted	Lakes opening too early not ripe, rice getting beat up before it is ripe.
10.	No rank noted	Opening date is a little to soon.
11.	No rank noted	Question: why open season on July 15 when rice is not ripe until Sept. 1.
12.	No rank noted	Doesn't matter rice is green at this time.
13.	No rank noted	Water levels-amount of big leaf weed smothering.
14.	No rank noted	Access to some lakes and rivers in Isabella area are terrible.
15.	No rank noted	Lots of elbow room most of the ricers we encountered up north were very serious about their craft.
16.	No rank noted	Amount of big leaf weed taking over lake-water levels.
17.	No rank noted	Nature's way of lowering river and lake levels- couldn't get to the rice.
18.	No rank noted	#14- Why so early a date, seems to be much later to harvest.
19.	No rank noted	The DNR should not open lakes/rivers until the rice is ripe.
20.	No rank noted	July 15 is some early.
21.	No rank noted	Why can't the white man harvest on all waters.
22.	No rank noted	10 - 2
23.	No rank noted	9 - 4 realistic.
24.	No rank noted	Daylight hours after opening day.
25.	No rank noted	Very difficult to rice during 9-3 ricing time. How about sunrise/sunset.
26.	No rank noted	I wish you got a break if you bought more than a license.
27.	No rank noted	I'd like to have 9 -6 pm, more flexibility.
28.	No rank noted	Lake access.
29.	No rank noted	Thoughtlessness of Native Americans and their garbage at landing sites.
30.	No rank noted	High cost of license is backward- DNR should pay me.
31.	No rank noted	What management? Of 15 lakes we scout, I have yet to see any sign of DNR influence.
32.	No rank noted	School staff wanted to take kids ricing after school but 3 pm closure didn't allow it.
33.	No rank noted	The hours could be 8 to 2.
34.	No rank noted	Sunrise to sunset picking hours then a person could pick if you had to work.
35.	No rank noted	I think hours are fine, don't change them.
36.	No rank noted	Price for license bad.
37.	No rank noted	7 am - 5 pm
38.	No rank noted	I'd like to see hours 9:00 - 6:00 pm.
39.	No rank noted	July 15 opening date means nothing
40.	No rank noted	3:00 pm close time is bad- working families only have the evenings to harvest rice.

Appendix E: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about 2006 Harvest Experiences, 2007

	RANK 1=Very Dissatisfied 2=Dissatisfied 3=Neither 4=Slightly Satisfied 5=Very Satisfied	2006 Harvester Comments about 2006 Wild Rice Season Experiences
41.	No rank noted	used rice to re-seed wetlands
42.	No rank noted	Increase in license fees.
43.	No rank noted	8-2 hours
44.	No rank noted	Price of license.
45.	No rank noted	Rice didn't ripen until late August.
46.	No rank noted	Do not open until ripe.
47.	No rank noted	too many people in remote areas because of web site
48.	No rank noted	If you have a full time job, 9-3 pm, you probably miss most of the good rice.
49.	No rank noted	Very bad experience with one processor, excellent with another.
50.	No rank noted	Opened too early- people had picked green rice.
51.	No rank noted	If you can't harvest green rice, why does it open so early?
52.	No rank noted	Water was very low- hard to pole canoe.
53.	No rank noted	The DNR's management of wild rice is s screwed up as anything they try.
54.	No rank noted	Low water levels- terrific unreachable crop.
55.	No rank noted	Lakes were open when rice was still green.
56.	No rank noted	Rice doesn't dry out till 11am or later.
57.	No rank noted	The opening date should be moved by 15 days (delayed).
58.	No rank noted	some bigger beds being harvested before they are ready.
59.	No rank noted	I have had lot of down rice because of bad weather
60.	No rank noted	Earlier hours would be more convenient for us.
61.	No rank noted	Thanks for asking.
62.	No rank noted	green rice being harvested
63.	No rank noted	Low water in 2006, not much rain.
64.	No rank noted	Hard to get to lakes, low water, lakes not posted.
65.	No rank noted	hrs 10-5
66.	No rank noted	expense of license for 2 people \$52 / 40#
67.	No rank noted	Low water level to drought- made harvesting difficult.
68.	No rank noted	Low water killed us, Big rice lake, St. Louis county.
69.	No rank noted	I like only serious harvesters on the lake.
70.	No rank noted	All in all it was a good year.
71.	No rank noted	Ricing should be 9 to 5.
72.	No rank noted	Lakes seem to have rice but no water.
73.	No rank noted	I am very concerned about genetic modification.
74.	No rank noted	Start time 7am to sunset when rice is ripe and it's ready.
75.	No rank noted	Because Leech lake Res stays closed until its ripe they come here and take green rice.
76.	No rank noted	Too many people ricing green rice- storm knocked it off.
77.	No rank noted	lots of rice but water level low hard to pick
78.	No rank noted	Opener should open from 7 - 3 pm.
79.	No rank noted	Too many harvesting green rice.
80.	No rank noted	Secrets I tell no one.
81.	No rank noted	Never gave to much thought to the above.
82.	No rank noted	Water level management. Opening early 7 am - 2 pm.
83.	No rank noted	Rice not ripe until Aug. 15 or later and hours too short 9 - 5.

Appendix E: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about 2006 Harvest Experiences, 2007

	RANK 1=Very Dissatisfied 2=Dissatisfied 3=Neither 4=Slightly Satisfied 5=Very Satisfied	2006 Harvester Comments about 2006 Wild Rice Season Experiences
84.	No rank noted	Hard to pole canoe due to low water.
85.	1	green rice law too vague
86.	1	Price of license is too high.
87.	1	It seems there is no enforcement on anything.
88.	1	Motorized traffic in and near rice beds.
89.	1	MN should get back water rights from Voyager's N.P
90.	1	Price of license.
91.	1	Cost of license is very high for non-commercial harvesters.
92.	1	Should have separate license for personal use and sellers.
93.	1	water level low due to beaver activity
94.	1	Illegal posting of season See Word file comments
95.	1	High horse power motors allowed on waters with wild rice.
96.	1	Cost of license for small volume ricers.
97.	1	cost for a license a lot for a 1 day season
98.	1	tribal control of stateside lakes those that have res boundaries running through them.
99.	1	Price for license for gathering for home use.
100.	1	DNR's doubling of fee- this isn't like fishing- it is very hard work!
101.	1	Many lakes I harvested 40 yrs ago no longer have rice
102.	1	\$25.00 fee is outrageous.
103.	1	the lakes listed below were flooded by beaver.
104.	1	Need to know times and dates for leech lake res. posted sooner or online.
105.	1	cost of license
106.	1	Not enough time to harvest.
107.	1	cost involved
108.	1	Cost of license.
109.	1	cost of license way too high! See Word File
110.	1	Enforcement, posting of lakes
111.	1	Low water.
112.	1	very upset to hear about the U of Ms wild rice genome project. This needs to stop.
113.	1	control of opening dates, per individual lake/river, based on ripeness (ripe rice).
114.	1	Deterioration of rice beds in big rice lake, St. Louis cty.
115.	1	Cost of license is too high.
116.	1	Do not like ideal of cloning.
117.	1	Increased cost of license.
118.	1	Water levels were too low to harvest my favorite spots.
119.	1	DNR policies re big rice lake (north of Virginia).
120.	1	Quality of rice on big rice lake (St. Louis Co).
121.	1	Price of license.
122.	1	No enforcement of hours on lakes- witnessed violations.
123.	1	Landing oversight.
124.	1	Noticed green something's on the water at Moose horn river.
125.	1	Too many people harvesting green rice.
126.	1	License fee too high- \$52 for a husband/wife team is prohibitive!!

Appendix E: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about 2006 Harvest Experiences, 2007

	RANK 1=Very Dissatisfied 2=Dissatisfied 3=Neither 4=Slightly Satisfied 5=Very Satisfied	2006 Harvester Comments about 2006 Wild Rice Season Experiences
127.	1	the fee of \$26.00 is too much! Wisconsin is \$4.00
128.	1	Water level management and seeding.
129.	1	legal nonresident options are costly & limited.
130.	1	Price of license doubled.
131.	1	The non-posting of big beds- not knowing if a bed 150 miles away is ready to pick-Vermillion- Big Sandy.
132.	1	People harvesting green unripened rice too early in year.
133.	1	The rice was too ripe. We had only one day to go.
134.	1	Motorboats running through young rice.
135.	1	Enforcement.
136.	1	Cost (increase over 2 years) of license.
137.	1	That there were no funds for beaver control.
138.	1	Poor access to some lakes.
139.	1	Speed boater wake, water levels, shore degradation.
140.	1	\$30 dollar daily non-resident.
141.	1	Good lake posting.
142.	1	water levels
143.	1	Regulate lakes and dates better.
144.	1	H.S. student can't harvest during week
145.	1	Climate change-more wind, warmer days.
146.	1	Price of license
147.	1	License unnecessarily expensive!! There is your reason why license sales declined.
148.	1	People breaking rice, no green buyers, and no protection for hand pick ricer and lake rice.
149.	1	Bad wind storm cut season short in 2006, 01, 2
150.	1	Survey maps- Information on lakes- river where rice grows and amount
151.	1	One-day license fee is too high when compared with other licenses.
152.	1	Water level management (despite drought) has caused pickerelweed to flourish.
153.	1	License cost is ridiculous- there is no wild rice management.
154.	1	Water height and wind blow down.
155.	1	Sharp rise in fees.
156.	1	The license fee is disproportionate high for the amount of (and need for) state regulation.
157.	1	Low water on river and lakes. Poor season.
158.	1	Water levels. Orr MN- No access on Vermillion and Mud due to water levels.
159.	1	DNR checking for state license. And boat registration when rice was harvested on Res.
160.	1	1- About the number of carp in lakes I harvest.
161.	1	Posting opening dates on lakes.
162.	1	Water level.
163.	1	State ricers start too soon, a lot of rice is damaged before it is ripe.
164.	1	water level down
165.	2	Fee amount

Appendix E: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about 2006 Harvest Experiences, 2007

	RANK 1=Very Dissatisfied 2=Dissatisfied 3=Neither 4=Slightly Satisfied 5=Very Satisfied	2006 Harvester Comments about 2006 Wild Rice Season Experiences
166.	2	Wild rice license (season) cost.
167.	2	We were not able to harvest enough rice to process; I herd it was a less productive season.
168.	2	Quality of pickers- some beat and break the stalks.!
169.	2	License fee too high.
170.	2	Cost of license is too high.
171.	2	Very low water in several places couldn't pick many places.
172.	2	Low water and gas prices were deal-killers for 2006.
173.	2	Cost of license is way too high.
174.	2	Location of rice buyers- communications.
175.	2	Wind cut season short.
176.	2	Informational assistance from MN DNR (local and state offices).
177.	2	Inability to find a processor that will take greater 100# for personal processing.
178.	2	apparent weather influence on crop
179.	2	Rice falls better earlier in the day.
180.	2	The water levels were low in some areas, making poling difficult.
181.	2	Access to processors or info on same
182.	2	Slightly dissatisfied with the price of license and early start date.
183.	3	Being my first year ever ricing. I really enjoyed the experience.
184.	3	July 15 opener seems too early
185.	4	First two weeks of September rice is ripe.
186.	4	Harvested about 1 cup full.
187.	5	Water levels are way to high in traditional area due to beavers. Carp and lily pads are problems.
188.	5	sign said Rice Lake being managed for wild rice production
189.	5	Because of the near drought, the crop was good.
190.	5	I enjoyed the rice beds.
191.	5	The green rice law- no set date by someone who opens season too early.
192.	5	Would like to see major rice beds posted until ripe so everyone has equal chance.
193.	5	Improved landings were nice (docks)
194.	5	This year was one of the best in 7 years.
195.	5	The crop.
196.	5	We had a good year.
197.	5	Regulate your rules period nobody knows what going on.
198.	5	Extend hours or 2 times, either way later in day.
199.	5	Weather
200.	5	cultural and harvesting natural food.
201.	unknown	shorter picking hours
202.	unknown	open reservation lands to all.
203.	unknown	carp uprooting the rice
204.	unknown	9-4 would be better. I have to take vacation time.
205.	unknown	start at 8 am go to 3 pm it gets too hot later
206.	unknown	rice must be 70% ripe, end of Aug.. See word file
207.	unknown	too wet at 9 am open at 10 or 11

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Lakes and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F.1 List of Lakes and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by Rank.

Location name	County	Lake ID	Total number of trips	Rank
---------------	--------	---------	-----------------------	------

Of 3,421 total trips reported by 845 harvesters:

27.4 % are represented in the top 10 locations (=gt 64 total trips/location)

50% are represented in the top 32 locations (=gt 24 total trips/location)

66% are represented in the top 68 lakes (=gt 12 total trips/location)

Mallard Lake	Aitkin	01014900	185	1
Flowage Lake	Aitkin	01006100	140	2
Big Sandy Lake	Aitkin	01006200	98	3
Natures Lake & Popple River	Itasca	31087700	89	4
Mississippi River (Brainerd)	Crow Wing	18river	78	5
Moose Lake	Aitkin	01014000	77	6
Mississippi River (Grand Rapids)	Itasca	31river	74	7
Breda Lake	St. Louis	69003700	66	9
Vermillion River	St. Louis	69river	66	8
Big Rice Lake	St. Louis	69066900	64	10

10 total locations 937 total trips or 27.4%

Lower Dean Lake	Crow Wing	18018100	62	11
Stone Lake	St. Louis	69004600	54	12
Bass Lake	Itasca	31057600	53	13
Twenty Lake	Aitkin	01008500	53	14
Sandy River Lake	Aitkin	01006000	48	15
Lower Rice Lake	Clearwater	15013000	44	16
Onamia Lake	Mille Lacs	48000900	38	17
Moose Lake	St. Louis	69079800	36	18
Shovel Lake	Aitkin	01020000	36	19
Mud Lake	Cass	11010000	35	20
Prairie River	Aitkin	01river	34	21
Ottertall River	Ottertall	56river	33	22
Rabideau Lake	Beltrami	04003400	33	23
Little Rice Lake	St. Louis	69061200	31	24
Prairie Lake	Itasca	31005300	31	25
Whitefish Lake	Crow Wing	18031000	31	26
Leech Lake	Cass	11020300	27	27
Bowstring Lake & River	Itasca	31081300	26	28
(Cow, Grouse and Muskrat bays)				
Upper Rice Lake	Clearwater	15005900	25	29

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F.1 List of Lakes and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by Rank.

Location name	County	Lake ID	Total number of trips	Rank
Minnewawa Lake	Aitkin	01003300	24	30
Tamarack NWR	Becker	NA	24	31
Winnibigoshish Lake (Rabbitt, Tamarack and Third River)	Cass	11014700	24	32
32 total locations			1,739 total trips or 50.8%	
Height of Land Lake	Becker	03019500	22	33
Nett Lake	St. Louis	69000100	20	34
Big Fork River	Itasca	31river	18	35
Lind Lake	Cass	11036700	18	36
Rainy Lake	St. Louis	69069400	18	37
Big Rice Lake	Beltrami	04003100	18	38
Deer Lake	Itasca	31034400	17	39
Lake of the Woods	Lake of the Woods	39000200	17	40
Lizzie Lake	Crow Wing	18041600	17	41
Mud Lake	Clearwater	15006100	17	42
Wolf Lake	St. Louis	69014300	17	43
Pelican Lake & River	St. Louis	69084100	16	44
Clearwater River	Clearwater	15river	15	45
Cramer Lake	Lake	38001400	15	46
Turtle River Lake & River	Beltrami	04011100	15	47
Beuber Lake	Cass	11035300	14	48
Brockway	Cass	11036600	14	49
Carman Lake	Becker	03020900	14	50
Crow Wing Lake	Hubbard	29011600	14	51
First river	Itasca	31081800	14	52
Hart Lake	Hubbard	29006300	14	53
St. Louis River	St. Louis	69river	14	54
Campers Lake	Lake	38067900	13	55
Clark Lake	Lake	38067400	13	56
Manomin Lake	Beltrami	04028600	13	57
Minerva Lake	Clearwater	15007900	13	58
Lower Rice	Clearwater	15013000	13	59
Crow Wing River	Hubbard	29river	12	60
Dahler Lake	Crow Wing	18020400	12	61
Elm Island Lake	Aitkin	01012300	12	62
Rainy River	Lake of the Woods	39river	12	63
Rice Lake (Big Fork River)	Itasca	31087600	12	64
Rice Lake (Deerwood)	Crow Wing	18006800	12	65
Rice Lake (Pillager)	Cass	11032100	12	66
Ripple River	Aitkin	01river	12	67

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F.1 List of Lakes and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by Rank.

Location name	County	Lake ID	Total number of trips	Rank
Stony Lake	Lake	38066000	12	68
68 total locations			2,270 total trips or 66.3%	

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.

County Name Lake Name ^a	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Aitkin				
Aitkin Lake	01004000	11		
Big Sandy Lake	01006200	98	3	
Blind Lake	01018800	1		
Davis Lake	01007100	2		
Elm Island Lake	01012300	12		
Farm Island Lake	01015900	2		
Flowage Lake	01006100	140	1	
Little Red Horse Lake	01005200	1		
Mallard Lake	01014900	185	2	
Minnewawa Lake	01003300	24		
Moose Lake	01014000	77	6	
Newstrom Lake	01009700	5		
Prairie River	0river	34		
Rat House Lake	01005300	2		
Rat Lake	01007700	2		
Red Lake	01010700	6		
Rice Lake	01000500	6		
Rice River	0river	3		
Ripple Lake	01014600	6		
Ripple River	0river	12		
Sandy River Lake	01006000	48		
Savanna River	0river	3		
Section Ten Lake	01011500	1		
Section Twelve Lake	01012000	5		
Shovel Lake	01020000	36		
Sjodin Lake	01031600	6		
Spirit Lake	01017800	2		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake Name ^a				
Terry Lake	01016200	1		
Twenty Lake	01008500	53		
West Lake	01028700	4		
White Elk Lake	01014800	1		
Basin not noted	NA	81		
Aitkin County Total		870		#1
<u>Anoka</u>				
Deer Lake	?	1		
Hickey Lake	02009600	5		
Basin not noted	NA	1		
Anoka County Total		7		
<u>Becker</u>				
Basswood Lake	03009200	4		
Big Basswood Lake	03009600	2		
Blackbird Lake	03019700	4		
Buffalo Lake	03035000	1		
Buffalo River	03river	2		
Cabin Lake	03034600	10		
Carman Lake	03020900	14		
Chippewa Lake	03019600	1		
Dinner Lake	03004400	1		
Eagen Lake	03031800	2		
Egg Lake	?	10		
Flat Lake	03024200	6		
Gull River	NA	5		
Height of Land Lake	03019500	22		
Hubble Pond	03024000	2		
Indian Creek	03river	7		
Little Basswood Lake	03009200	1		
Little Round Lake	03030200	7		
Lower Egg Lake	03021000	9		
Mud Lake (duplicates)	?	2		
Ottertail River	03river	6		
Rice Lake (duplicates)	03029100	10		
Rock Lake	02029300	3		
Round Lake	03015500	4		
Shell Lake	03010200	11		
Tamarack NWR	?	24		
Twin Islands Lake	03003300	2		
Two Inlets	03001700	1		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake Name ^a				
Wild Rice River	03river	1		
Wolf Lake	03010100	1		
Basin not noted	NA	8		
Becker County Total		183		#6
Beltrami				
Boot Lake	?	6		
Bootleg Lake	04021100	2		
Carr Lake	04014100	1		
Cranberry Lake	04012300	1		
Grant Creek	04river	4		
Heart Lake	04027100	1		
Manomin Lake	04028600	13		
Mississippi River	04river	11		
Moose Lake	04034200	1		
Peterson Lake (duplicates)	?	1		
Pimushe Lake	04003200	1		
Rabideau Lake	04003400	33		
Big Rice Lake	04003100	18		
Tagan Lake	?	2		
Three Island Lake	04013400	2		
Turtle River Lake	04011100	15		
Whitefish Lake	04030900	2		
Basin not noted	NA	13		
Beltrami County Total		127		#8
Carlton				
Dead Fish Lake	09005100	5		
Hay Lake	09001000	1		
Island Lake	09006000	7		
Kettle Lake	09004900	8		
Moose Horn River	09river	9		
Rice Portage Lake	09003700	1		
Sandy portage	?	1		
Basin not noted	NA	3		
Carlton County Total		35		
Cass				
Beuber Lake	11035300	14		
Big Rice Lake	11007300	10		
Boy Lake	11014300	1		
Boy River	11river	2		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake Name ^a				
Brockway	11036600	14		
Bulgen Lake	?	4		
Farnham Lake	11051300	8		
George Lake	11010100	3		
Goose Lake	11009600	7		
Gruber Lake	?	2		
Inquadona Lake	11012000	1		
Island Lake	11035900	8		
Laura Lake	11010400	9		
Leech Lake	11020300	25		
Lind Lake	11036700	18		
Lizzie Lake	18041600	13		
Lower Trelipe Lake	11012900	2		
Moose Lake	11042400	5		
Mud Lake	11010000	13		
Norway Lake	11030700	3		
Pike River	11river	1		
Pine River	11river	5		
Portage Lake (duplicates)	?	5		
Rice Lake (duplicates)	?	5		
Rice Lake (Pillager)	11032100	12		
Sandy Lake	?	4		
Steamboat River	11river	1		
Sucker bay	?	1		
Winnibigoshish Lake	11014700	24		
Woman Lake	11020100	2		
Basin not noted	NA	22		
Cass County Total		244		#5
Chisago				
Carlos Avery State WMA	?	6		
Elk Lake	?	2		
Chisago County Total		8		
Clay				
Cromwell Lake	14010300	2		
Clearwater				
Bagley Lake	15004000	3		
Big Rice Lake	?	10		
Clearwater River	15river	15		
Lone Lake	44000200	1		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lower Rice Lake	15013000	44		
Mahnomen Lake	?	5		
Mild Lake	?	2		
Minerva Lake	15007900	13		
Mississippi River	15river	9		
Mud Lake	15006100	17		
Lower Rice Lake	15013000	13		
Sucker Lake	15002000	7		
Upper Rice Lake	15005900	15		
Basin not noted	NA	7		
Clearwater County Total		161		#7
Cook				
Elbow Lake	16009600	5		
Iron lake	16032800	1		
Mark Lake	16025000	4		
Marsh Lake	16048800	2		
Rice Lake	16045300	1		
Swamp River reservoir	16river	1		
Turtle Lake	16025100	2		
Vermillion River	16river	1		
Basin not noted	NA	1		
Cook County Total		18		
Crow Wing				
Camp Lake	18001800	1		
Cartie Lake	18018900	1		
Crow Wing Lake	18015500	4		
Crow Wing River	18river	3		
Dahler Lake	18020400	12		
Duck Lake	18017800	3		
Garden Lake	18032900	1		
Goggle Lake	18022300	4		
Google Lake	18022300	2		
Half Moon (Mississippi River)	18river	1		
Holt Lake	18002900	1		
Little Pine Lake	18017600	6		
Little Pine River	18river	2		
Lizzie Lake	18017600	4		
Lower Dean Lake	18018100	62		
Lows Lake	18018000	4		
Middle Cullen Lake	18037700	5		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake Name ^a				
Mississippi River	18river	78	5	
Mud Lake (duplicates)	?	6		
North Long Lake	18037200	1		
Pine River	18river	1		
Platte Lake	18008800	1		
Rice Lake (duplicates)	?	7		
Rice Lake (Deerwood)	18006800	12		
Rice Lake (Hesitation State WMA)	18005300	10		
Upper Cullen Lake	18037600	4		
Whitefish Lake	18031000	30		
Basin not noted	NA	13		
Crow Wing County Total		279		#4
Hubbard				
Big Mantrap Lake	29015100	3		
Upper Bottle	29014800	1		
Crow Wing Lake	29011600	14		
Crow Wing River	29river	9		
Fifth Crow Wing Lake	29009200	1		
First Crow Wing River	29river	3		
Fourth Crow Wing Lake	29007800	7		
Garfield Lake	29006100	5		
George Lake	29021600	1		
Hart Lake	29006300	14		
Hay Creek	29river	1		
Island Lake	29025400	3		
Kabekona Lake	29007500	1		
Kabekona River	29river	1		
Lake Alice	29028600	11		
Lake George	29021600	11		
Mantrap Lake	29015100	4		
Mississippi River	29river	1		
Necktie River	29river	2		
Oak Lake	29006000	1		
Rice Lake	29017700	2		
Schoolcraft Lake	29021500	2		
Shell River	29river	1		
Sixth Crow Wing Lake	29009300	1		
Spring Lake	29005400	5		
Hubbard County Total		105		#10

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake Name ^a				
Isanti				
German Lake	30010000	2		
Rice Creek	30river	1		
Basin not noted	NA	1		
Isanti County Total		4		
Itasca				
Aspen Lake	31069000	3		
Bass Lake (duplicates)	31057600	53		
Big Fork River	31river	18		
Blackberry Lake	31021000	2		
Blackwater Lake	31056100	10		
Bowstring Lake	31081300	19		
Bowstring River	31river	7		
Crooked Lake	31020300	3		
Cut Foot Sioux Lake	31085700	3		
Damon Lake	31094400	1		
Deer Lake	31034400	5		
Deer Lake (duplicates)	?	12		
Dixon Lake	31092100	3		
Dora Lake	31088200	11		
Drumbeater Lake	?	11		
First river	31081800	14		
Hale Lake (duplicates)	?	3		
Little Balsam Lake	?	2		
Little Pokegama Lake	?	6		
Long Lake (duplicates)	?	2		
Marie Lake	31050700	1		
Mississippi River	31river	74	7	
Moose Pond	?	1		
Mud Lake (duplicates)		22		
Mud lake (55-24)	?	6		
Natures Lake	31087700	82	4	
Otter Lake	31030100	3		
Pigeon River	31river	1		
Popple River	31river	7		
Prairie Lake	31005300	31		
Prairie River	31river	2		
Rice Lake	31087600	12		
Rice River	31river	1		
Shimmerhorn Lake	?	1		
Smith Lake (duplicates)		1		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake Name ^a				
Swan Lake	31006700	11		
Third River	31river	9		
Unnamed	?	1		
White Oak Lake	31077600	10		
Basin not noted	NA	41		
Itasca County Total		505		#3
<u>Kanabec</u>				
Ann Lake	33004000	1		
Mille Lacs State WMA	?	1		
Kanabec County Total		2		
<u>Koochiching</u>				
Nett Lake	36000100	6		
Rainy Lake	36069400	18		
Rat Root Lake	36000600	9		
Ray Lake	?	4		
Tiltson Creek	NA	1		
Koochiching County Total		38		
<u>Lake</u>				
Cabin Lake	38026000	4		
Campers Lake	38067900	13		
Clark Lake	38067400	13		
Cloquet Lake	38053900	10		
Cramer Lake	38001400	15		
Farm Lake	38077900	2		
Four-mile Lake	?	2		
Garden Lake	38078200	2		
Gegoka Lake	38057300	1		
Greenwood Lake	38065600	3		
Hoist Lake	38025100	2		
Hula Lake	38072800	3		
Island River Lake	38084200	6		
Little Langley Lake	?	2		
Middle Mcdougal Lake	38065800	2		
Round Island Lake	38041700	10		
Sand Lake	38073500	5		
Stony Lake	38066000	12		
Stony River	38river	4		
Basin not noted	NA	11		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name Lake Name ^a	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Lake County Total		122		#9
Lake of the Woods				
Baudette River	39river	3		
Lake of the Woods	39000200	17		
Rainy River	39river	12		
Silver Creek	39river	1		
Winter Road River	39river	6		
Lake of the Woods County Total		39		
Mahnomen				
Mahnomen Lake	?	1		
Mille Lacs				
Lake 10	?	1		
Mcgregor Lake	?	8		
Mille Lacs State WMA	?	2		
Onamia Lake	48000900	38		
Onoris Lake	?	4		
Whitefish Lake	48000100	1		
Basin not noted	NA	5		
Mille Lacs County Total		59		
Morrison				
Long Prairie River	49river	1		
Peavy Lake	49000500	1		
Placid Lake	49008000	1		
Basin not noted	NA	1		
Morrison County Total		4		
Otter Tail				
Lake Sixteen	56010000	5		
Mud Lake (duplicates)	?	2		
Ottertail River	56river	27		
Star Lake	56038500	3		
Otter Tail County Total		37		
Pine				
Crooked Lake	58002600	5		
Hay Creek	58river	5		
Kettle River	58river	3		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.

County Name Lake Name ^a	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Moose Horn River	58river	2		
Pokegama River	58river	1		
Snake river pokegama	58river	1		
Willow River	58river	6		
Basin not noted	NA	5		
Pine County Total		28		
<u>Sherburne</u>				
Basin not noted	NA	1		
<u>St. Louis</u>				
Bear Island River	NA	1		
Big Rice Lake	69066900	64	10	
Birch Lake	69000300	5		
Breda Lake	69003700	66	8	
Burntside Lake	69011800	2		
Butterball Lake	69004400	1		
Crane Lake	69061600	1		
Embarrass River	69river	1		
Hay Lake	69041700	6		
Hockey Lake	69084900	1		
Hoodoo Lake	69080200	3		
Knuckey Lake	?	8		
Lake George	690040	1		
Little Indian Soo River	69river	1		
Little Moose Lake	?	5		
Little Rice Lake (duplicates)	69061200	31		
Little Stony Lake	69002800	4		
Little Vermillion Lake	69060800	1		
Lost Lake (duplicates)	?	1		
Low Lake	69007000	2		
Moose Lake (duplicates)	69079800	36		
Mud Lake	69080000	1		
Nina-Moose River	69river	3		
Nuke Lake	?	3		
Pelcan Lake	69084100	2		
Pelican Lake	69084100	9		
Pelican River	69river	5		
Petrel Creek	69river	3		
Pike River	69river	8		
Reba Lake	?	4		
Rice Lake (duplicates)	?	5		

Appendix F: Wild Rice Harvester Survey 2006 List of Rivers and Lakes Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice, 2007.

Appendix F-2: List of Lake and Rivers Utilized for Harvesting Wild Rice in 2006, by County.				
County Name Lake Name ^a	DNR Dept. of Waters Lake Identification ^b	Total # Trips	Lake Rank	County Rank
Rice lake (by Biwabik)	?	2		
Seven Beaver Lake	69000200	3		
Shannon Lake	69092500	2		
Shannon River	69river	3		
Sioux River	69river	2		
St. Louis River	69river	14		
Stone Lake (duplicates)	69004600	54		
Vermillion River	69river	66	9	
Washhusk Lake	?	1		
Wolf Lake (duplicates)	?	17		
Basin not noted	NA	47		
St. Louis County Total		515		#2
Stearns				
Mud Lake (duplicates)	?	1		
Todd				
Big Rice Lake	?	1		
Long Lake	77006900	1		
Long Prairie River	77river	2		
Mud Lake	77008700	1		
Rice Lake	77007300	2		
Rogers Lake	77007300	1		
Turtle Creek	77river	1		
Basin not noted	NA	1		
Todd County Total		10		
Wadena				
Crow Wing River	81river	5		
Myrtles inlet	?	8		
Twin Lake	?	1		
Basin not noted		6		
Wadena County Total		20		
^a Duplicates = There is more than one lake in the county with the same name. ^b NA = Department of Waters number not available. "?" = Department of Waters number unknown				

**Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Harvesting Hours, 2007**

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset
1.	a good sustainable harvest should be possible w/ current hours.
2.	3:00 allows time to get rice to a seller/processor.
3.	Not sure that would hurt future yields or not.
4.	10 am is too late to start- 6 hours is long enough for such hard work.
5.	6 hrs is enough (maybe 10 - 4 to let rice dry) ducks need peace at sunset.
6.	There are too many people who would have longer to beat down green rice plants.
7.	People beat up rice beds already by harvesting green rice to soon.
8.	10 am to 3 pm would be better, it falls better then.
9.	10:00 am-3:00 pm
10.	6 hours is plenty of time and that leaves the rice some time to recover.
11.	Support 8:00 - 2:00.
12.	Give rice a chance to ripen after 3 pm to next day.
13.	Too much destruction of rice beds with that many hours.
14.	Don't over harvest.
15.	Wildlife needs access and quiet time.
16.	9 a.m. to sunset.
17.	I am an early riser and I have to work in the evenings.
18.	Either way would be ok later in the day there is less wind.
19.	6 hours is long enough
20.	What will be the risks from boats to birds running through them in the dark.
21.	9 to 4.
22.	Maybe 9am - 5pm Interfere with resting waterfowl in wild rice areas with sunset.
23.	9 to 3 allows a leisurely day, without beating the competition.
24.	10 - 5 pm
25.	Could be longer but not until sunset.
26.	Too short a day.
27.	9 - 5 was better/still time to get off of lake before dark.
28.	Shorter hours are better for the rice paddy
29.	There appears to be no reason to have hours for harvesting.
30.	Rice beds need to rest and ripen.
31.	Wild rice should not be picked that many hours in a day. It should be picked according to ripeness.
32.	too difficult to find your way back in the dark!
33.	The current hours weed out some people, it's nice.
34.	it gives the rice a chance to ripen more
35.	9:00 am to 12:00 or 10 to 1:00 so rice bed is not destroyed.
36.	Should start earlier in the day.
37.	10:00 - 6 pm. I don't think it should be S.S. for numerous reasons.
38.	Too long
39.	Moving off harvest areas and packing-up in darkness.
40.	Although it seems like some ricers don't honor it anyway.
41.	Hours are long enough.
42.	9 am to sunset would be better.
43.	Longer hours.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
44.	Better to have some light after ricing to see by.
45.	Afternoon ripening is substantial (noticeable)
46.	Hours are fine.
47.	Longer hours would only give a couple of greedy locals more time to rape the lakes and leave less for the rest of us.
48.	Current hours are fine.
49.	Too much damage to crop- should go back to the 70's regulation. Doesn't have a chance to recover for the next day.
50.	Need the hrs.
51.	current hours are fine.
52.	I think the rice needs some time protection.
53.	9 am is a good start time.
54.	We only riced until 1:30 each day, very hot out, riced at our own pace.
55.	Earlier if anything.
56.	9 am to 3 pm is long enough.
57.	8-3 pm
58.	There is plenty of rice and no one harvesting it.
59.	The guys (CO's) need daylight to check stuff correctly.
60.	It would be best by the end of the 1st day. 10 to sunset too long.
61.	let the plants recover
62.	People will screw themselves up staying out too late.
63.	people would be out after dark
64.	10am to 4pm, rice needs to dry from dew in early morning.
65.	harvest is easier to monitor at 9-3
66.	Rice ripens different on each lake. When it is ripe, open up sun-up till sundown. 5 am to 9 pm
67.	no need to change

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
68.	It gets to warm in afternoon hours.
69.	Maybe 10 am - 4 pm to give more afternoon hours when I think the rice falls off easier, but 10-
70.	Hard to do other things with night.
71.	like to start early
72.	I would rather start earlier than stay late.
73.	Time is long enough.
74.	I would like to start at 8 am, while it is still cool.
75.	The rice beds need time to rest.
76.	I want to see the hours changed to 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.
77.	Longer than 6 hrs would be hard on the bed.
78.	7 am to 3 pm
79.	Later would mean a mess, right now everyone cleans.
80.	Hours 9 am to 3 pm are fair to everyone, including enforcement.
81.	Rice may be wasted if harvested in late afternoon.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset
82.	I would support sunrise to 3:00 hrs.
83.	Just fine.
84.	Disturbs wildlife- waterfowl.
85.	Earlier in the day is cooler for harvesters, and the rice comes off better.
86.	Hours should be 7 am to noon to avoid heat stroke/stress.
87.	May interfere with other types of harvest.
88.	why - 6 hrs is plenty
89.	Earlier is better.
90.	The rice beds need time to rest after being picked.
91.	Maybe 8 am to 3 or 4 pm.
92.	Birds, etc. want into the rice beds at sunset- don't bother them.
93.	Lazy people hours/rice falls in the morning.
94.	For one it's a safety thing, if someone tips, would get dark to soon if sunset.
95.	start earlier
96.	Earlier better, lees wind and cooler usually.
97.	9-3 is perfect for us who travel
98.	9 am to 6 or 7 due to increase of moisture after 7 pm.
99.	first year seemed ok
100.	Times are good, cuts down on waterfowl disturbance.
101.	The rice needs time to ripen.
102.	First 2 days 3 hrs, first Sunday off.
103.	Nicer to do in cooler part of day no need for longer day.
104.	It should be sun up till sun down.
105.	I'd prefer 9 - 6.
106.	Such long hours would deplete lakes too quickly.
107.	Start at sunrise to sunset
108.	Traveling time to location- must start early and waterfowl seem up and moving by 9.
109.	I'd rather start earlier before the wind picks up.
110.	It's long enough its hard work.
111.	9-3 is good.
112.	8 am - 2 pm better.
113.	9-3 is plenty.
114.	Ducks can feed better early and late in the day.
115.	I prefer harvesting earlier in the day when it is cooler.
116.	6 hours (9-3) is about right.
117.	I get tired and it makes it more fare to rest and go back.
118.	the pressure on ripening beds would be too great and damaging.
119.	lakes would not have time to recover for the next day.
120.	4 hours is plenty of time to get what we need.
121.	9 is fine. Helps beat the heat of the day.
122.	crop needs time to ripen.
123.	3 pm is fine. Gives bed time to recover for next day.
124.	I'd rather start earlier - say - 7 am - 3 pm.
125.	the pressure on ripening beds would be too great and damaging.
126.	The beds will get wiped out.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset
127.	give ducks and other wildlife a quiet period during evening. Suggest 9-6 pm
128.	9 am to 5 pm
129.	we have been told by experienced folks earlier is better.
130.	I feel the harvesting hours are just about right. This type of change could promote more intensive harvest and not allow the rice to 'comb out' between picking days.
131.	6 hrs plenty of time of hard work. Gives rice time to stand up.
132.	are good as is.
133.	like to start early - 9 am could even be earlier (8:30). Ending time later okay.
134.	I'm very tired by 3 and its good to "have" to stop
135.	crop needs to ripen
136.	10 am to 3 pm recommend not past 3 pm
137.	10 - 4
138.	7:30 am start. To get away from the heat
139.	see comments word file
140.	you would be disturbing feeding of ducks by late ricing
141.	why not sunrise to sunset?
142.	1. The shorter hours protect the rice and were set for a reason. 2. Enforcement at/after sunset= money= higher license fees.
143.	I like it.
144.	9 to sunset.
145.	it gets to hot later in the day.
146.	I think 8 - 7 am start finish earlier in day due to heat.
147.	Not needed.
148.	Earlier is better to beat the heat.
149.	It's to many hours and it doesn't give waterfowl and rats etc. to settle back in for the night.
150.	I would like an earlier opening-8 a.m. less wind, cooler, and fewer bugs. Going to sunset might be okay for people who work during the day (8-4) An 8 hr day is long enough.
151.	6 hrs is enough for my needs.
152.	6 hrs/day is enough. Early morning is often less windy
153.	why would you consider lengthening the hours? I am always glad when 3 pm comes!
154.	5 hour picking day I would support
155.	6 hours of ricing is plenty- it's hard work.
156.	It's long enough
157.	It is cooler at 9 a.m. go to sunset if you ...[survey cut off]
158.	I'd rather it went from 8 am to 4 pm.
159.	Daylight hours for everyone.
160.	7 or 8 am - sunset.
161.	How about 9 am to sunset.
162.	I would like 8 am to noon.
163.	I would support extended hours, but not moving the start time back.
164.	As more people learn the pleasure of wild ricing-6 hours is enough time to rice out a lake.
165.	would like 8 am to 4 pm
166.	fine the way it is
167.	Daylight to 3 pm or sunset.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
168.	6 hrs is long enough, get tired. The only reason for changing hours would be to accommodate people with day jobs.
169.	I prefer the current hours- it lets more rice ripen for the next day, and 6 hrs/day is my body. I think the rice beds would get too beat up enough for 4 hours were 10-sunset. Also, it's nice to get out
170.	I need to complete ricing earlier. Have other duties.
171.	This is time enough.
172.	Afternoons get too hot.
173.	That's too long.
174.	I'd rather start early, before it's too hot, 6 hours is long enough!
175.	Potential safety issues if you have people with loaded canoes after dark.
176.	9 to 4 pm
177.	It would be nice to work in the morning before it gets hot.
178.	Start 7am to sunset.
179.	More than enough time now.
180.	Prefer a 8 am start. Cooler and less wind.
181.	9 to 4.
182.	I like 9-3 and not out in the dark on the water.
183.	The rice gets beat up when more people are out longer.
184.	The rice needs some recovery/ripening time a harvest day (9-3).
185.	Ricing gets harder as day gets hotter- Better if 8 - 2 pm.
186.	Should be open all day, everyday once season is opened.
187.	Takes a day anyway.
188.	Like it as is.
189.	I would favor the hours of 10:00 until 2:00
190.	10 to 4 enforceable and human limit.
191.	Stands would get pounded down quickly.
192.	Current hours are fine.
193.	You don't need more hours just better hours (let the rice ripen)
194.	Hours are fine.
195.	Should be sun-up to sundown.
196.	Too much for the patches rice 6 hours is long enough. (shorter hours)
197.	I would prefer any time.
198.	6 hours is enough- give beds time to ripen- rice will get completely pounded if open from 10 am to sunset.
199.	6am to 12.
200.	I am in good shape and I was very tired at the end (3:00).
201.	Normally less wind in early mornings.
202.	We must allow early and late for ducks, wildlife.
203.	It's enough work as it is.
204.	The bed needs to recover.
205.	Should start at daylight, lake afternoon rice doesn't fall very good.
206.	Ricing that late could be dangerous.
207.	6 hrs is enough for me
208.	8am to 2pm would be better, because it gets hot.
209.	Why not all day? Afternoon sun is brutal.
210.	Too hot doesn't fall that good- better in morning.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset
211.	Rice needs to rest.
212.	I would rather see it. 8am to 4pm.
213.	Beds are already over harvested.
214.	Start early, quit early. Less wind and cooler.
215.	Early morning is better because it's cooler.
216.	Would be printed out, Indians harvest anytime they want now!
217.	Indians go when they want already.
218.	I have never heard reason behind them. Later afternoon hours would be nice but not at the expense of an early a.m. start. I need to know the reason for a change to support it.
219.	8 to 4 pm- days are long, greed would ensue!
220.	8 - 2 would be best in order to beat the high temp. in afternoon.
221.	I think the 9a to 3p limit protects the patties.
222.	See attached #1.
223.	Harvesting rice, harvests better in early morning hours.
224.	Would be ok to sunset, just would prefer earlier morning.
225.	7 to sunset because the rice tighten up in the afternoon.
226.	All day ricing shouldn't be allowed.
227.	earlier is better.
228.	Earlier.
229.	6 hours is enough.
230.	7 am - sunset let us avoid heat stroke!
231.	Picking is better in early morning.
232.	Current hours give plenty daylight on and off lake/stream.
233.	Ducks need time without people.
234.	6am to 1pm
235.	At sunset, people are more likely to harvest non-ripe rice by mistake.
236.	3 is fine time to quit.
237.	I like it as it is.
238.	Some take 500# in 6 hours- too much damage would like 4-hour days.
239.	10 - 2 none going to get rich.
240.	7am to sunset.
241.	Maybe till 4 or 5 pm.
242.	Hours are good.
243.	I like afternoon for rail hunting.
244.	Maybe until 5:00 pm. Remoteness= less safe after dark.
245.	Rice seems to come off better in morning.
246.	10 - 5 rice would be dry in the am- stop at 5 pm to allow rest time for the rice.
247.	If you spend too much time on a lake you will ruin the rice for the next day.
248.	The "average" ricer wouldn't have a chance to get rice.
249.	Everybody knows when 3 pm is, but nobody seems to know when sunset is. (enforcement
250.	6 hrs a day is plenty of time to fill your canoe.
251.	I'd rather start earlier than stay later. Bag rice in daylight.
252.	9 am to sunset would allow working people to pick.
253.	The rice needs a rest. Even 9 am to 2 pm would be ok.
254.	One group of people could damage the crop for others.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
255.	I like to start early. By 4 or 5 I'm tired.
256.	Nice to rice in am when cooler. Get off lake in light.
257.	I even liked every other day 4-6 hours.
258.	6 hours is enough. More would do too much damage to crop.
259.	Why 10 am, why any restrictions.
260.	It is too hot in the afternoon.
261.	Leave like it is.
262.	9-3 works fine, why not allow beds time to recoup?
263.	am hours are better and need to allow ducks to settle in the pm.
264.	A lot of time needs to be spent unloading and picking through rice. Sunset too late.
265.	9 am to 4 pm.
266.	Greed!
267.	Wind is greater as day gets later (most rice harvested in first 2 hours.
268.	The later the start the dryer the rice the more that falls in lake.
269.	Shift to 10 am means we would lose 1 hour during coolest part of the day.
270.	Dawn to dusk. Rice fall better in a.m.
271.	10 am to 6 pm would be ok. Sunset is probably too many hours.
272.	Rice picks better in the morning dew.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
273.	By why not earlier in the day 7 - 10.
274.	Provides more time to move to another site if first site is to busy or already harvested.
275.	This would be great as work will not allow many of us to harvest during these "bankers" hours.
276.	So little pressure in way of pickers 10 to sunset would fit most lakes.
277.	I usually travel quite a distance to rice.
278.	Could be 7am to sunset.
279.	many people drive considerable distances extended hours more convenient.
280.	This would give us more time for breakfast and make lunch and travel.
281.	Good idea if buyers ok with it.
282.	The dew needs to dry.
283.	Unless this depletes the rice crop.
284.	It gives everyone a better chance of going.
285.	I would enjoy evening harvest- but only if the extended hours are safe for the rice.
286.	You should consult Native American elders of the region.
287.	I would love to see this change, you hear the needs for this.
288.	Keep 9 am open- change close to sunset.
289.	I work from 8-5 6 days a week, this would give a chance to rice.
290.	Weather would play a part (daylight to dark-best).
291.	Could rice after work.
292.	beds are thin near Lutsen - need more time not more trips
293.	Closing at 3 pm is too soon for all those with jobs.
294.	Too much is lost by wind and storms with short hours.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
295.	You can take your time and not beat green rice.
296.	People who work can pick when rice is ready, not wait for weekends.
297.	Keep at 9:00 am, go to 60 Min. before sunset (for waterfowl).
298.	8 or 9 a.m. to sunset would be better.
299.	rice drops off better in afternoon lets the few ricers left maximize yield.
300.	an evening harvest would be nice, to go out after work instead of missing work
301.	makes more sense when all you have is a few days
302.	this change may make it easier for more people to be able to harvest rice.
303.	More time for dew to burn off.
304.	I think this is a big improvement on time as the rice is drier.
305.	Definitely, balancing work and ricing is difficult; would use a vacation day if day ricing was longer.
306.	Hours should be 3 to 4 hrs longer.
307.	Why not make a full day of it. Time, travel, etc.
308.	sounds good, be able to rice longer.
309.	I work during the day 7 to 3, have a few hours to rice.
310.	the difference between the 2 is minimal to me.
311.	People around here are doing it already! (not me- irritating).
312.	Preparations- less humidity for drier picking in the afternoon.
313.	not a strong preference
314.	9:00 am 1 hour prior to sunset.
315.	Due to conflicts with work hours.
316.	Because of the hot sunny days- (heat stroke).
317.	It's to find time with that short of a period of time.
318.	After July 18 or 3 days after opening.
319.	This would be awesome, the hours are short.
320.	Why such a late start.
321.	For someone working during the day, it's hard to pick much.
322.	If biologically feasible.
323.	It wouldn't matter to me- I don't know reasons for change.
324.	I portage into a remote area and would appreciate the entire hours for ricing.
325.	If the resource can be properly protected.
326.	Prefer 9 to sunset
327.	Do we need times? Nobody's ricing! Better to have some time other than the middle of the day.
328.	But why not sunrise to sunset?

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
329.	6 hrs/day is not enough time when your time is limited.
330.	Nice to have more pm time.
331.	The six hours was enough for harvesting for personal use. A few more hours per day would be good.
332.	we travel a long way, camp. 10-5, rice comes off better!
333.	On a windy day later in the day the wind subsides.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset
334.	The dew is off by then.
335.	I would like to see hours 9 am to sunset.
336.	It is sometimes pretty wet at 9:00 A.M.
337.	hard to harvest much if you have a day job
338.	please
339.	maybe 10-4 instead. I feel a bit mixed on hrs. I like the tradition and keeping lakes from being over harvested.
340.	I could rice after work/school with my son. I think a fixed time would be better than sunset- 6:30 pm close.
341.	Absolutely! The best simple change you could make.
342.	It would enable me to rice after work on weekdays.
343.	with this change a person could harvest after work.
344.	It would be nice not to hurry!
345.	Rice is wet in the morning. Comes off better in afternoon.
346.	good to let morning dew dry off rice – would allow an additional hour.
347.	Daylight hours after opening day.
348.	Cannot always get out until afternoon.
349.	Rice doesn't dry out till 11am or later (wet rice don't fall).
350.	like this proposal a lot!
351.	longer hours would not adversely affect the rice beds due to small numbers of ricers
352.	not a big issue to me
353.	Yes, I think it would be good to let rice dry more in the morning.
354.	At current harvest pressure, this seems ok.
355.	not sure, rice might be drier.
356.	with work it hard to get out, 60 miles closest rice.
357.	Strongly agree this would give school students time.
358.	Absolutely!! The rice is usually still too wet to pick at 9:00am.
359.	More time on the nice days.
360.	Damp days rice seems to fall later in the day.
361.	not very concerned with the hours.
362.	sun rise to sunset
363.	Season can be cut short- weather allow for longer harvest time.
364.	How about sunrise to ? A lot cooler in morning.
365.	Rice falls better as the sun dries the rice.
366.	People could go out after work in the evening.
367.	I would like seeing 8am to sunset.
368.	rice is dryer in the evening. People beat harder in the mornings
369.	10 to 5 sun days. Windy days late yes.
370.	It would be nice to rice for a couple of hours after work.
371.	it is easier to harvest after school/work and sunset would help that.
372.	fine as is
373.	10 – 5
374.	Expand hours w/b very good.
375.	9 to sunset.
376.	But would prefer an 8 A.M. opener or sooner-cooler.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
377.	Opening time window will give people more flexibility when to harvest.
378.	Day shift workers can't rice 9 – 3.
379.	Good idea since rice can cling tight to head in early morning.
380.	I would actually like to see the hours extended even further.
381.	More flexibility for working people.
382.	So we can take our time.
383.	or a 9 – 5 pm harvesting hours.
384.	Wouldn't make much difference to me either way.
385.	It will be nice to have more time in am to get onto some of the more remote beds.
386.	As you get older it takes longer.
387.	A 10 am start the rice would not be as damp.
388.	Fits work schedule better.
389.	I think a later closing would give more opportunity.
390.	Should be 9 to sunset.
391.	Good plan- the rice comes off easier when the morning sun dries it.
392.	Either is ok (as is or change).
393.	Working man can't harvest unless he is on the weekend.
394.	Would allow harvesters to take break during heat of day.
395.	9 – 3 doesn't make sense.
396.	I think you should start at 7 – sunset.
397.	Rice comes off better early in the morning when dew is still on. Start time at sunrise would be
398.	If later in fall. To rice after work.
399.	Not time to get to some places as is.
400.	Afternoon the rice falls better with less stress to plants.
401.	To sunset would be excellent.
402.	Maybe 9 am to 6 pm.
403.	I don't understand the impact of harvesting hours.
404.	Prefer 9 am to sunset.
405.	This would allow me to go after work. Also rice comes off better after the dew has dried off, so 10 am is reasonable.
406.	Afternoon winds bad, but sunset is romantic.
407.	This would allow someone with a job to go rice after work.
408.	But it doesn't really matter too much.
409.	It probably wouldn't change the amount of time spent on the water because you get tired out after so long anyway.
410.	The rice is usually too wet at 9:00 am and great at 4-5 pm.
411.	This works much better for people going out after work.
412.	Doesn't matter to me.
413.	The later end time would allow us to take kids after school.
414.	9 to sunset.
415.	Would allow opportunity for school kids.
416.	Yes, very much- this is the biggest limiting factor. Working families only have the evenings to
417.	10:00 am gives rice more drying from heavy moving dew.
418.	If the rice is ripe.
419.	Yes and no, 10 to 6 would be right. Plus it would be hard to regulate 10 to sunset.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset
420.	Only if the hours would be regulated to even., other day during start of season.
421.	Before dark.
422.	Why not 9 am to sunset? The window to harvest is very short anyway.
423.	10-6 would be good for many.
424.	The rice always falls better in the afternoon.
425.	Would give more flexibility to change lakes if harvest is poor.
426.	8 a.m. to sunset would be better. 6 hrs is enough but on hot days, morning & evening picking
427.	This would help out greatly.
428.	3:00 pm closure way to early – families only have time to pick in evenings.
429.	For a working person 3 pm sucks.
430.	no time limit
431.	As long as harvesting time is longer. (9-sunset) would be great.
432.	Evenings would be nice.
433.	I like the 10:00 hrs part with longer hours; not sure all the way to sunset.
434.	With these hours, people like me who work during the day are only able to rice on days off for me this means weekends only! This doesn't seem right.
435.	10 am start is much better, less damage due to drier conditions. Would not have to be until sunset. Early season 6 hrs is long enough. Most important change is to start later.
436.	It's hard to travel/scout by 9 am- but I would defer to those who care take.
437.	If one has to travel a considerable distance, it would be economically helpful to be able to harvest more rice.
438.	Easiest to keep time.
439.	A later start and longer hours would be more laid back.
440.	There's no reason not to.
441.	If rice is ripe what difference does it make.
442.	Can rice harvest after workday.
443.	I would like to be able to harvest a little each day instead of only on weekends. If you work during the day, this rule means weekends only.
444.	Would allow someone working to get out after work.
445.	This shouldn't matter. The rice days around 9:00- it would be better to go later.
446.	More flexibility for working people.
447.	More available hours make more options available.
448.	How about 10 am to 5 or 6 pm?
449.	Seems more likely to be harvesting day rice?
450.	Even 10 a.m. to 6 or 7 pm. Might be better enforcement than sunset.
451.	I prefer the afternoon times.
452.	This would be great.
453.	Some situations, getting there takes up all the time.
454.	Rice falls better after noon.
455.	That would be the best hours.
456.	Some days it's too hot to be out there from 9-3.
457.	It would be better if opened at 12.
458.	The day we went was very warm. Later in the day would have worked out nice.
459.	Either
460.	Sunrise to sunset.

Appendix G: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Hours, 2007.

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holder and Oppose Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
461.	9 to sunset.
462.	Don't know- would it risk putting too much pressure on lakes and rivers?
463.	Start earlier before the wind picks up. 8 - 3
464.	makes no difference
465.	No preference.
466.	I am not fully informed about the importance of starting and closing time.
467.	Doesn't make any difference to me.
468.	Don't know whatever protects the crop and the little guy.
469.	Not sure
470.	Not sure.
471.	no comment
472.	9-3 should remain.
473.	time is good as is - it gives time to get off lake in light
474.	8 am to 5 pm like it was when I started.

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Support Change in Harvesting Hours to 10 a.m. to sunset	
475.	Why change the hours?
476.	Maybe.
477.	no opinion
478.	9 - 5
479.	For my use 9 to 3 is fine, but for cash harvesters may want more.
480.	Yes, because serious ricers don't need a limit, no because limits stop the stupid people.
481.	Not enough experience to comment
482.	need to be educated more to answer this question.
483.	Doesn't matter.
484.	Why?
485.	Doesn't matter hours are fine.
486.	Doesn't matter
487.	Don't care
488.	I like the current hours but I am not fully educated on pros and cons of either time.
489.	9 - 5 would be great.
490.	10 - 4 maybe- sometimes dew is very heavy at 9:00.
491.	Neither, let some other entity decide.
492.	I do so little ricing that I'm not sure of impact.
493.	Don't matter.
494.	why-6 hrs kicks my @#*
495.	does not matter
496.	10 to 4
497.	9 to 3 is just fine for me- I have no opinion on other options.
498.	No opinion

**Appendix H: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Harvest Season Opening Date, 2007**

Appendix H: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvest Season Opening Date, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
1.	Wild rice should only be harvested when ripe.
2.	Should be able to harvest when ripe.
3.	Should be when rice is deemed ripe.
4.	Every year id different for ripe rice.
5.	Seems rice was dropping by 8/14 in 2005 season in some areas.
6.	it matures earlier in the north
7.	August 30. July 15 is way too soon for wild rice to be ripe.
8.	Rice not ripe.
9.	Ripe is key word if it is ripe by 7/15 ok or it will all go back in water
10.	Legally, rice cannot be harvested until ripe.
11.	why change.
12.	When it's ripe it's ripe and everyone starts at the same time. The later date only gives tribes 1st chance.
13.	Major storm will wipe out harvest.
14.	Make it August 1st due to different weather conditions.
15.	Why change if don't harvest green wild rice.
16.	Leave in flexibility for early ripening harvest.
17.	too late. Each area is individual
18.	Should open when first river ripens.
19.	Global warming effecting harvest.
20.	Varies between locations.
21.	When ripe.
22.	Possible upsetting the balance of nature.
23.	Rice isn't usually ripe until around 1st or so.
24.	I support changing the date to when it is ripe. So the date cannot be set in stone. It depends on the weather and nature to determine the optimal date.
25.	leave it alone
26.	Hard to predict ripeness.
27.	Why do we need a season when only ripe rice can be harvested?
28.	Some years it's ripe before August 14.
29.	Those harvesting know when it's ripe.
30.	When rice is ripe- harvest it. However 95% is after August 14 anyway.
31.	No lake should open before its ripe enough. Rivers ripen early.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
32.	Why bother?
33.	Leave it to the ricers to wait for good rice.
34.	Too much pressure on opening day- lots of lakes still green.
35.	Would support changing to Aug. 7. Things can ripen rapidly depending on growing season.
36.	You can't pick unripe rice anyway.
37.	Let people go and check to see if its ready.
38.	August 1 would be soon enough.

Appendix H: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvest Season Opening Date, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
39.	seems to vary too much to change.
40.	I like being able to harvest when ripe.
41.	We know when it's ripe, we watch it.
42.	We only pick ripe rice - so not much of an issue - doesn't get ripe until later.
43.	It may be ripe before August 14th.
44.	get closer to old problem of regulation opening.
45.	Pick when ripe.
46.	Aug. 14th is usually on target but I have seen it ripe earlier. Wind and storms could harm them.
47.	No big deal, rice generally never ripe till middle of August anyway.
48.	Some lakes and rice ripens earlier than others.
49.	ok as is - in 2006 Island river and Sand river were ripe before Aug 14.
50.	No then people might think it's ripe at that time.
51.	Doesn't matter.
52.	No comment
53.	August 10th would be better.
54.	We are smart enough to know if the rice is ripe.
55.	Some lake if ripe, rice will be all gone before August 14- if you know!
56.	You can't harvest till the rice is ripe anyway.
57.	If rice is ready, harvest or lose the opportunity.
58.	Makes no difference it still isn't ready.
59.	Ripening of rice varies widely even in water in close proximity.
60.	Does it make a difference?
61.	That's too late in my area to start.
62.	Doesn't ripen save every year.
63.	Lake Alice is early, same years mid Aug.
64.	More enforcement and rules of what is green rice.
65.	Also eliminate closing date- Pick till the rice is gone.
66.	The date should be the same as the first body of water becomes ripe.
67.	As some northern MN rice lakes ripen earlier.
68.	I believe people will start picking Aug. 14 ripe or not.
69.	I don't know the issues- don't have firm opinion.
70.	Rice is ready to pick on labor day weekend and not before. Aug. 14 is too early- set it at Labor day weekend.
71.	Pick when it's ready.
72.	August 1 would be better.
73.	Harvest when rice is ripe.
74.	Some areas of state ripen earlier.
75.	Some lakes, not many are ready earlier.
76.	Mid September start would protect the green rice.
77.	No! Have riced Aug 12, 13, and 14 some years.
78.	I prefer the old method of DNR posting beds "opened" when ripe and ready.
79.	Although July 15 is too early, Aug. 14th maybe too late some years.
80.	Could cause green picking.
81.	Some beds may be ripe before Aug. 14.

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2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
82.	Ready to harvest MN trapper Assoc. annual rendezvous weekend prior to Aug. 14 2006. Sioux River in St. Louis city in prior years done ripping to Aug. 14th as is different strain- Canadian!!!
83.	Maybe August 1st.
84.	Harvest when ripe- DNR enforced.
85.	Both are too early. Most years are about August 26.
86.	Harvest depend too much on variables of nature some years are early, some late!
87.	Green rice can't be picked and nobody tries to then.
88.	I am not completely sure when is better.
89.	I sometime canoe to rice to see it, no license on canoe
90.	July 15th is obviously too early- if changed to Aug. 14 many people may start on this date thinking its ready.
91.	Having the "opening day" close to the actual time when the rice may be ripe will encourage the harvest of green rice.
92.	I would like to see Sept 1st.
93.	It seems irrelevant
94.	an August 14 start would concentrate pressure and damage beds
95.	we couldn't get our license until 15 Sept. most rice gone
96.	Too late wind blown rice down.
97.	July 15 is ok, you don't go when it isn't ready.
98.	couple yrs ago - 200 lbs 2-3 hrs - 06 Aug. Rice didn't even need to be knocked just pulled over canoe, sounded like rain. Lot of rice early that year. We start checking 01 Aug. on sun rain temps some years early. Don't like it
99.	I would prefer Sept 1
100.	you don't rice until its ripe some lakes are ripe earlier.
101.	no one harvests unripe rice
102.	Rice is not ready at that time, if rice is filled out then its time to harvest.
103.	again, why change? No one goes before mid-August. Eliminates opening day syndrome.
104.	Only allowed to pick ripe rice.
105.	It doesn't matter, either way the rice isn't ripe yet.
106.	the July date puts the responsibility on the picker to determine when the rice is ready.
107.	with mostly all experienced ricers no date or posting is needed. A farmer harvests when crop is ready.
108.	It's not ripe either date, and there is no competition to harvest early.
109.	Law still requires that rice be ripe - start date is not relevant.
110.	an August 14 start would concentrate pressure and damage beds
111.	Some lakes ripen early, depending on weather conditions.
112.	This is our 1st time, so we don't know.
113.	Keep the same hours.
114.	1 Aug. would do.
115.	When rice is ripe you could pick!
116.	Rice ripens differently from year to year July 15 works.
117.	Rice doesn't always ripen by the calendar.
118.	Crop may mature Aug. 1st. Publish openings best with 2 day notice.
119.	I just harvest it when it is ready.
120.	Depends on the weather and a good ricer will know when its (ready) ripe.

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2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
121.	If global warming rice might ripen early than August.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
122.	Since wild rice does not normally ripen till after Aug 14.
123.	To insure immature plants are not damaged.
124.	and or later, depend on seasonal weather currents.
125.	common sense would say 14-August
126.	If rice is not ripe, you just knock down the rice.
127.	Too many picking green.
128.	makes sure people don't trample rice that isn't ready
129.	Rice is not ripe that early.
130.	It isn't ripe until September.
131.	not ripe.
132.	Though our first year the rice was all gone in our spot by July 26 th
133.	It is not ripe in my area in July.
134.	simplify things
135.	Less chance of harvesting too early of ripeness.
136.	There is no rice ready in July.
137.	Ripe rice later.
138.	rice in not ripe July 15 th
139.	Or after Aug. 14 depending on the ripening of rice on each lake.
140.	Rice isn't ripe until late august.
141.	Not ripe till after that date.
142.	July 15 seems too early most of the time.
143.	I've never seen ripe rice earlier than that.
144.	No rice is ripe in July.
145.	I have had many people ruin the areas I work. Sept. 1 st would be great.
146.	We don't have rice harvest ready until late August.
147.	And the cost should not be \$26.00 for the whole season.
148.	Here rice is never ripe until almost Sept.
149.	Starting later for all may allow rice to ripen more.
150.	No wild rice in N. MN is ready in July!
151.	It's not ripe by then.
152.	More appropriate for us in our region.
153.	It should depend on how ripe the rice is.
154.	14 of August is plenty early.
155.	It's never ripe that early anyhow.
156.	None
157.	Early rice harvest ruins rice beds.
158.	rice is seldom ripe any sooner anyway
159.	Rice doesn't ripen until later date- People may destroy it prematurely.
160.	July 15 is too early. The rice doesn't ripen until the 1 st of September.

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	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14
161.	If your going to charge high license fee, lets manage the individual lakes. Ripe rice harvesting varies from lake to lake.
162.	Past dictates that we always open too early.
163.	Need to keep inexperienced people out of immature rice as long as possible.
164.	Rice is never ready that early. It only destroys the crop.
165.	would help prevent premature damage.
166.	July 15 th is way too early- it is never ripe then.
167.	Both dates are prior to a rice crop- doesn't matter.
168.	Seldom ripe before August 14.
169.	It's not ripe then anyway.
170.	Make sure it is ripe.
171.	Better if changed to Aug. 20 th
172.	Change it to August 25 th . August 14 is to early for northern part of state.
173.	The rice usually isn't ripe until then anyway.
174.	We are far north, so it doesn't ripen until September here.
175.	where would you find ripe rice in Northern MN? In July.
176.	Didn't seem to be ripe enough when we went.
177.	Rice usually isn't ripe until Aug. in Northern MN.
178.	Give the rice the chance to ripen
179.	it would help the rice from being picked green
180.	rice not ready early
181.	July 15 is too early and damages beds.
182.	Not ripe in July.
183.	And too often- ricing season should be determined by county when it is ripe.
184.	Most years you don't start until the end of August anyway.
185.	Of course, never heard of rice ripe in July.
186.	Rice doesn't ripen until the end of August or early September.
187.	I wouldn't think it is ripe in July
188.	Novices will attempt to rice when crop is not ripe.
189.	Enforce laws to regulate lakes better.
190.	People come in and beat up green rice
191.	There is no ripe rice on July 15.
192.	In our area the rice is getting ripe approximately. August 20 th .
193.	must harvest ripe rice
194.	Very little rice is in shattering stage that early.
195.	Nothing ready before Aug. 14.
196.	I have only done it one time, but it was still green labor day.
197.	It still will not be ready.
198.	definitely!
199.	July 15 th is too early- we used to start in August near the 1 st of Sept.
200.	Some people don't understand you should only harvest ripe rice.
201.	In northern MN it is never ready by then.
202.	Although with global warming we may see earlier ripening.
203.	Although generally meaningless as rice would still not be ripe.

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2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
204.	This may help prevent some green rice beds from being beat down.
205.	Some are not waiting for it to be good and ripe.
206.	Depending on conditions of rice and native practices.
207.	I don't recall it being ripe prior to Aug. at least not in northern MN.
208.	I don't believe rice is ripe on July 15.
209.	Rice has never been ripe in this area before Aug. 20, usually Aug 25.
210.	July 15 to early- knocks unripe rice down.
211.	Several others have commented on harvest of green rice.
212.	I would like to know why- what arguments for/against are there?
213.	There is virtually no wild rice ripe before Aug. 14.
214.	never made since having a 7/15 start date.
215.	If the rice is ripe and support early harvesting.
216.	At least it might be ripe. (better chance)
217.	Seems to ripen in late August.
218.	Hotter in July than August.
219.	Rice is usually too green in July- depends on weather also.
220.	Not ripe.
221.	Even later to last week of Aug. Too many pick green rice.
222.	Rice generally not ready till later.
223.	Open northern lakes earlier Aug. 1 Southern Aug. 14
224.	It's not ripe in July.
225.	Most rice still isn't ripe by August 15 th .
226.	The rice is too green and it hasn't ripened.
227.	Too early- rice still undeveloped or milky in most areas.
228.	Not ripe in July and would keep people from harvesting un-ripe rice.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
229.	Rice isn't generally ripe on July 15.
230.	There are still too many people who try to pick green rice.
231.	To prevent buds getting wrecked by harvesting too early.
232.	DNR still opens lakes when rice is still green.
233.	Rice in this area never ripens before the end of august.
234.	Ridiculous to set 7-15 as an opening.
235.	July is too early.
236.	July 15th is too early.
237.	Rice is not ready in July.
238.	Too many people don't know (or else care) when rice is ripe. It should open depending on when rice is ripe.
239.	August 15th.
240.	Rice is too green in July.
241.	Opening day is when it's ripe.
242.	The later the better.

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2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
243.	Change it August 30, because that's when the rice is ripe.
244.	Some lakes are harvested too early.
245.	More chance of being ripe.
246.	The lack of recognition of ripe stands of wild rice by inexperienced ricers puts them at more risk.
247.	No rice is ready.
248.	Would make good sense to let rice ripen more!
249.	Rice not ready to harvest sooner.
250.	Different lakes ripening up at different time.
251.	Never found any ripe this early.
252.	Or used the tribe's for opening all!
253.	See attached #1
254.	most lakes should be regulated by local DNR. People are picking green rice to early and ruining the rice and making other people mad.
255.	because it's never ripe that early anyways.
256.	It will prevent/reduce green rice harvesting. Global warming is shifting ripening. Is Aug 14 early enough to anticipate changes over the next few years?
257.	Very rarely is rice ripe in July- not ever actually.
258.	I think July 15 is early.
259.	Keep green ricers away. At least until ripe.
260.	July is too early.
261.	Rice is never ripe by July 15
262.	Aug 20th would be better. I personally believe that the large rice beds need to be monitored and dates set when there ready to begin harvesting. Ex. Jerry McHugh did an excellent job of setting date & monitoring wild rice - north of Virginia.
263.	Doesn't change any ricing days in our area.
264.	Rice isn't ready for harvesting until late August anyway.
265.	It has been my experience that the rice has never been ripe enough in July.
266.	July 15th is stupid- never ripe in July.
267.	Aug 10.
268.	It's not ripe until the last part of August.
269.	We go when the rice is ripe so start date is not important.
270.	There is no ripe rice in July.
271.	It shouldn't open that early. It should open by lake when ripe.
272.	I've only riced 3 years but have never found it ripe until early September.
273.	yes, if ripe crop.
274.	I've never seen it ripe that early.
275.	It's not ripe in July.
276.	Absolutely
277.	Rice isn't ripe in July.
278.	Wild rice is never ripe July 15 or even Aug. 14. How about Sept. 1
279.	I seldom see ripe rice in July or early August.
280.	The July 15 date is irrelevant. The rice is never ripe before mid Aug. It makes the DNR look incompetent.
281.	Rice in our area usually doesn't ripen until later.
282.	Rice could be riper.

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283.	Rice never ripens that early.
284.	No rice is ready any way at that date.
285.	July 15 is nonsensical- nothing is ripe- open the beds when they are ripe. This is the primary responsibility of the DNR- harvesting green rice wrecks the beds.
286.	Seems reasonable considering when most rice ripens.
287.	No rice is ripe in N. MN 7/15. The Green rice law is too vague. Significant rice lakes should be posted, monitored and opened on specific dates.
288.	It's never ready until Aug 14 usually.
289.	Rice is never ripe until mid-August.
290.	after 3rd weekend in August.
291.	It is rare to find ripe rice as early as 7/15.
292.	July 15th? Who thought it might be ripe?
293.	in this area.
294.	it hasn't even begun to form rice in July.
295.	unless lakes in Northern MN are prone to ripening earlier.
296.	In Grand Rapids area, earliest lake ripens app. Aug. 20.
297.	I'm not aware of rice ripening before August!
298.	rice isn't ripe until the 3rd week in August anyway.
299.	July 15th is too early, the rice is not ripe.
300.	Most pickers govern themselves, but some harvest way too early.
301.	rice usually does not ripen till Aug 30th
302.	open up Reservation lands to all like hunting.
303.	Aug 20 is the earliest I have harvested rice
304.	I don't think any rice is ripe before that
305.	It's not ready that early.
306.	If the rice is ready earlier it could be opened by the DNR.
307.	rice is never ready before Aug 14th
308.	Would be nice rice not ripe. (We look for ripeness of rice before harvest).
309.	The July 15 date is much too early. The Indians have the right idea when tribal elders open reservation lakes to harvesting only when the rice is ready. DNR used to do that to a degree but I realize that takes money that DNR doesn't have.
310.	no need so early, only green illegal rice
311.	rice can only be harvested when ripe
312.	Aug 25 or later seasons and storm weather affects
313.	It really doesn't matter to rice pros; would keep novices off the water.
314.	It should be the end of August because everyone goes out to early.
315.	Every year, pickers go into a lake and ruin the rice bed picking green rice. August 14 is plenty early even for the northern part of the state.
316.	July 15 is to far in advance of maturation.
317.	It's not ripe in July.
318.	Would like to see open when ripe (monitor) and post lakes if possible by DNR.
319.	Change would be fine.
320.	The season opener doesn't matter! I don't harvest until the rice is ripe.
321.	Is it ever ready in July?
322.	That's plenty early.
323.	Rice is not ripe on July 15.

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324.	No one should be allowed to pick until ripe.
325.	Too many people knocking off green rice and damaging the plants.
326.	I worry about rice beds being abused (too early)
327.	July 15 the rice is not ripe.
328.	rice isn't ready until then anyway.
329.	Wild rice does not ripen in July.
330.	Harvesting green can damage crop.
331.	would like it to be after third week in August
332.	I have never harvested rice before Aug 14.
333.	seems that nothing ripens in July.
334.	Green rice harvest a major problem/concern. Consider a flexible start date based on ripeness- like Tribal Mgmt (lake by lake)
335.	the Aug 14th date is more realistic.
336.	Rice is never ripe on state lakes- give it more time.
337.	rice usually not ripe before then (where we go)
338.	Don't care, unripe is unripe.
339.	it seems the rice is never ripe until Aug where I go.
340.	people are out too soon.
341.	should be managed based on rice being ripe - to stop the harvest/destruction of green rice!
342.	It allows for more mature rice.
343.	It is never ready before August 14th.
344.	It doesn't seem like the wild rice would be ready earlier.
345.	it never ripens so early anyway.
346.	Too many idiots start too early and wreck rice.
347.	rice doesn't ripen until Aug or Sept.
348.	the rice here is not ready until Labor Day
349.	Aug 20th would be even better.
350.	you can only harvest rice when its ready
351.	rice is not ripe at this time.
352.	Yes- it's never ripe until late August.
353.	Not usually ripe in July
354.	Since rice cannot be harvested that early it makes no sense to open the season then. It would be convenient to be able to buy my rice license in the spring when I purchase my annual hunting/fishing license. Also be nice to purchase next season ski pass to
355.	to many people start early ruining the beds
356.	we don't rice till Sept. 5th-6th this year.
357.	where we harvest it's never ripe till the end of August.
358.	July 15 is too early!
359.	Rice is not ripe yet in mid-August. Open when it is ripe!
360.	Might stop some people from beating green rice.
361.	July 15 is too early for an area.
362.	rice not ripe in July
363.	I am not aware of rice being ready in July.
364.	There is no ripe rice in July in MN.

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365.	Really not a factor- rice is not ready until mid-late Aug.
366.	The earliest I've ever gone out is late Aug. and then it's still green.
367.	Rice is never ripe before late August anyway.
368.	The rice is not ripe usually in July.
369.	July too early, Aug 10th.
370.	Don't really care since harvesting of green rice is illegal anyway.
371.	Too many people start too early.
372.	Usually harvest on 1854 commission waters.
373.	Has the rice even been ready to harvest by July 15?
374.	Early harvesting destroys the crop. Wild rice is still green July 15th.
375.	Damn right!
376.	Wasn't ready in July- we harvested early September.
377.	No rice is ripe in MN in July.
378.	I've yet to see rice ripe in July.
379.	Rice is pretty good end of Aug.
380.	No rice at July 15 anyways- doesn't matter date.
381.	The rice is never ripe on July 15th.
382.	There must be like the res. Does and have a management of ripping one lake for ripping and open accordingly. Have different zones to open south and north.
383.	Some people go out to early and wreck rice beds.
384.	It doesn't get ripe till the end of august.
385.	Wild rice is never ripe.
386.	July 15th is too early.
387.	It is tough to find ripe rice before august 14.
388.	August 20 better yet.
389.	People cannot stop from going to early.
390.	Although it makes little difference, it seems the rice is ripe after Aug. 14.
391.	The July 15 date is not feasible. Go back to posting lakes.
392.	Rice is normally not ripe on Aug 14
393.	See too many people out knocking green rice.
394.	Is there ripe wild rice prior to Aug. 14?
395.	There is no rice ripe on July 15 anywhere in the state.
396.	I support, but don't see the point. Rice isn't ripe Aug. 14 either.
397.	can't harvest until it ripe anyway!
398.	Neutral on this..rice only harvested when ripe. July to ripe for ripe seed.
399.	I have yet to see ripe rice by Aug. 14th. Aug. 23- yes.
400.	Haven't heard of rice being ripe this early.
401.	In our area that's way too soon.
402.	Not ripe July 15 anyways.
403.	Serious ricers- only harvest ripe rice, sadly some ruin rice beds by premature harvest.
404.	It's not ripe till then.
405.	Rice is seldom ripe before last week of august in our area, but this may change with global warming, so unsure.
406.	Rice can ripen early 20th Aug. to early September.
407.	No rice is ready.

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408.	Rice is more ready for harvest in August.
409.	Wild rice just starts to bloom in July.
410.	Keeps people out of the beds.
411.	Seems to me that there is no rice ripe prior to Aug 14 anyway.
412.	It's never ripe that early.
413.	Too early, not ripe.
414.	Closer to ripen rice.
415.	Usually not ripe in July.
416.	Pick rice when it's ripe. The opening date varies.
417.	The rice I harvest isn't ever ready until September.
418.	I have never heard or seen rice ripe July 15.
419.	Does it ever ripen before Aug 14?- No
420.	Rice isn't usually ripe until after Aug. 14.
421.	Never have gotten ripe rice before 8-18.
422.	Many lakes aren't ripe until even later- lakes should be posted.
423.	Some years the northern beds are ripe Aug. 10th.
424.	It should open when the rice is ripe.
425.	It would be better rice.
426.	No rice is green in July.
427.	It appears that harvesting/ripening doesn't even begin as early as 15-July.
428.	It's about time.
429.	If this is judged to be best for
430.	Never get ripe until last week in August
431.	It's never ready in July.
432.	Or later- wait until it's ripe!!! Open each patch individually as you use to do- I don't think your personnel is too over worked to handle it.
433.	In my years of ricing, it has never ripened before that.
434.	Because the rice is usually not ripe until middle of August or early September.
435.	It's not ripe July 15 and seldom ripe on Aug. 15.
436.	July 15 to early.
437.	I have never seen "ripe" rice on July 15 or 30th in my life.
438.	Rice isn't ripe July 15.
439.	There is no ripe rice until the middle of Aug.
440.	Never see ripe rice prior to the 14th.
441.	No rice is ripe on 7-15
442.	It's not ripe until mid August
443.	It's usually not ripe until the end of Aug. and some people will not stay off green rice beds.
444.	Our records show that we never harvested before August 23.
445.	July 15 is a joke- no rice is ripe that early.
446.	A lot better but rice is still green then too.
447.	Not ripe that early anyway.
448.	If the rice crop isn't ripe by then there's no reason to open.
449.	Who defines "green rice" could get challenged in court.
450.	I harvest later when ripe.

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2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
451.	Rice doesn't appear to be ripe until end of August.
452.	Inexperienced ricers damage unripe crops with early opener.
453.	Could be controlled early North later South.
454.	Rice is non ripe until August anyway.
455.	Global warming is just a 100 year cycle that's all.
456.	It's never ripe before August 14.
457.	Not ripe on 7-15
458.	I've lived in Northern MN. No rice is ripe or worth harvesting 7/15.
459.	Rice is not ripe on July 15, so it doesn't make sense to open it that early.
460.	I have never harvested rice earlier (not ripe yet).
461.	I have never seen rice ready before mid-August.
462.	It's not ripe before August 14th.
463.	In our area rice wasn't ready in July. August would be better start date.
464.	Makes more sense. I've never seen rice ripe in July.
465.	It is not ripe before August anyway.
466.	Rice isn't ripe until at least August 14.
467.	When ripe
468.	Saw people harvesting green rice.
469.	The lakes with rice don't ripen until the end of august.
470.	Start at the end of August.
471.	There's no rice ready before 8/14 anyway.
472.	Chance to get ripe, before it gets bushwhacked when not ready.
473.	Rice usually does not ripen in Northern MN till labor day weekend or later.
474.	Maybe August 1
475.	Wild rice is never "ripe" at that time.
476.	Very few beds are ripe in July.
477.	Makes more sense given the natural ripen.
478.	It's not ready in July anyway.
479.	7/15 too early.
480.	Prevent harvesting under ripe rice.
481.	To early to begin harvesting
482.	opening season before rice is ripe is STUPID!
483.	Should open closer to September1 or when 70% ripe.
484.	To reduce risk of taking under ripe rice. It is a fall crop.
485.	When the rice is ripe or later. Should be body of water specific.
486.	Our area doesn't seem to be ripe until the later date.
487.	The rice does not ripen until late August anyway.

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
488.	To many early harvesters, they have it trampled by the time its ripe.
489.	Don't care
490.	Depends on water conditions.
491.	“ “

Appendix H: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvest Season Opening Date, 2007.

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
492.	I don't know enough about it to comment wisely.
493.	I don't care.
494.	Leave as is- pick when ripe.
495.	Doesn't matter-rice in my area ripens after either date.
496.	Don't know pros and cons.
497.	Same as above.
498.	I don't know enough to have an opinion at this point.
499.	Season should not start till rice is ripe.
500.	Don't know
501.	It should be when the bulk of it ripens regardless of the date.
502.	Whenever rice is ready.
503.	No opinion.
504.	This date cannot be set like this. The weather determines when to pick.
505.	It makes no difference when you open it.
506.	The rice should say when the season opens, not an arbitrary date!!!
507.	Don't care I harvest late Aug.
508.	I do not pick green rice (ripe)
509.	Depends upon the year, climate, etc.
510.	Rice usually not ripe until end of Aug. locally.
511.	No preference, it should start when ripe.

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
512.	I think the start date should be announced each year according to ripeness.
513.	It depends upon the year, the earliest year that it was 1977- early Aug.
514.	Not sure if it makes any difference.
515.	Don't matter,
516.	July 15 and Aug. 14 is the same.
517.	no opinion
518.	Native American Rice committee opens the season.
519.	need to be educated more to answer this question.
520.	not sure what impact would be
521.	Sept. 1st would be better.
522.	the date will not mater if the rice is not ripe.
523.	Not sure I know enough to comment.
524.	no opinion.
525.	Same comment as 13.
526.	1+ is always green.
527.	I would say when rice is ready to harvest.
528.	I was unaware of that early date.
529.	N/A
530.	When rice starts to ripen that's when to start harvesting, there's no date that would work season after season.
531.	this is a joke, each lake should open when the rice is ripe, should be regulated somewhat, by

Appendix H: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvest Season Opening Date, 2007.

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Harvest Date to August 14	
532.	Doesn't matter as long as open when ripe.
533.	It's not even ripe by Aug 14th usually open it when it's ripe
534.	Unsure since this was my first year.
535.	Not sure
536.	No difference, rice is not ready.
537.	Rice doesn't ripen until late Aug. usually.
538.	I don't know advantages or disadvantages.
539.	No opinion
540.	It doesn't matter it is not worth going unless it is ripe.
541.	Would support more education/information/enforcement of ripe rice. Rice harvest dates vary.
542.	Our lake isn't ripe until Sept., so the opening date is of no concern to me.
543.	I don't care.
544.	A non-issue is either way.
545.	Our rice is never ripe much before labor day- no opinion.
546.	I don't watch it that close.
547.	I don't have an opinion either way.
548.	Either is for too early in my area.
549.	Doesn't matter because you don't harvest until ripe!
550.	Not enough experience to comment
551.	Don't have enough experience for valid opinion.
552.	Doesn't matter, rice usually not ripe till late August.
553.	Don't know enough.

**Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007**

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches
1.	no need to change
2.	Must keep harvesting non-commercial! Keep traditional.
3.	Unless it can be shown that it does not harm the plant.
4.	Preservation of the crop is most important.
5.	Standard canoes.
6.	Most canoes are 36" or narrower, which is ok/length should be extended to 18.5 or 19' which many modern canoes are.
7.	36 inches is nearly to wide a path through the rice.
8.	2" doesn't sound like a lot but t increases the overall cubic capacity a lot.
9.	Crush rice.
10.	Canoes normally are 36" (mine).
11.	Keep it simple.
12.	Too much damage would be done to rice stocks.
13.	If you're good at ricing, it's not necessary.
14.	The canoe is appropriate.
15.	I think that larger watercrafts would do unnecessary damage to beds.
16.	wider could be more damaging to the rice beds
17.	I don't know what the impact would be.
18.	Would beat down more rice pulling through.
19.	Only if a canoe.
20.	I'm assuming 36" is a standard canoe; 38" is a ?
21.	bigger might be more damaging to beds
22.	36 works okay
23.	36 is plenty.
24.	keep as is
25.	36" is good. Maybe 38" would be safer.
26.	From what I witness seemed to be big enough.
27.	Too big- too hard on rice bed.
28.	36 inches is good.
29.	narrower the vessel the easier the flailing.
30.	Why?
31.	36 wide
32.	Doesn't need to be commercial
33.	For what? Sounds like special interest change.
34.	None
35.	no need to change regulations
36.	Drop it back the way it used to be.
37.	Pushes more rice down, wider path, and no reason.
38.	The wider the craft the more damage it can cause.
39.	Never should there be anyway other than canoe.
40.	It would cause over harvest.
41.	Why?
42.	wider watercraft lays down the rice to much.
43.	The wider the swath, the more damage to the bed.

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches
44.	Fine the way it is.
45.	Wider watercraft will damage rice (make more trips).
46.	I see no reason to allow larger boats disturbing rice beds.
47.	It only takes one fool to destroy the rice bed.
48.	Over 34" starts to push rice apart and break stems.
49.	Too much damage to rice bed.
50.	why? This is really dumb!! Why don't you just make it row boat sized and be done with it
51.	Some rice has to go back to waters.
52.	Do what's best for the beds not the "greedy" ricers.
53.	If I had my way, narrower traditionals would be used.
54.	Too much rice damage.
55.	Too hard to pole or paddle through rice anyway.
56.	Damage to rice.
57.	Need more information but canoes at present seem right.
58.	Wider would damage more plants.
59.	Why 38"?
60.	Don't care.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches
61.	Maybe 40" our canoe was 38.5 with brace out 36" brace in, but do you measure from inside or outside?
62.	safety
63.	This would include square stern canoes- safer.
64.	some canoes are 37" wide.
65.	Older people need wider boats.
66.	Some fiberglass canoes wider as canoe fills.
67.	why not, it's a lot of hard work for what a person gets.
68.	Many canoes are at least 38".
69.	Yes, most new canoes are wider than 35".
70.	A lot of canoes are 38" wide
71.	Canoe lengths should be increased to 19'.
72.	Big deal- 2 more inches, canoes are still 36".
73.	Don't think it would make that much difference.
74.	If this change is to accommodate existing canoes that are more stable.
75.	Canoes only
76.	It is very difficult to find a canoe with 36" widths.
77.	conditionally-I would support wider watercraft for handicapped people
78.	More rice in the boat.
79.	I don't think that would hurt the rice.
80.	Safer.
81.	the increase by 2" will make no difference in the harvest.
82.	1" on each side might be more stable but may be harder to get into rice

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
83.	Less regulation is better.
84.	Stability.
85.	Wider canoe will be more stable. Although hard to pull when full.
86.	If you take out middle bar it flex to wide?
87.	Yes because when you take yoke bar out of 36" boat it can be 37" wide.
88.	More secure boat.
89.	A lot of canoes are less than 17 feet long, but greater than 36" wide.
90.	who cares about the measurements of the canoe-people should use the canoe they already have, not have to have a different boat for ricing.
91.	Most current canoes made 38" (no special boat).
92.	Although generally meaningless as rice would still not be ripe.
93.	Canoes are wider now.
94.	Canoe style boats a couple inches don't matter I feel.
95.	If it means more people will do it.
96.	Increase stick length, without increasing weight.
97.	any canoe should be ok.
98.	Should not negatively impact crop.
99.	Safer boat to pull.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - No Response to Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
100.	Don't care
101.	Doesn't really matter- leave as is.
102.	Why
103.	Maybe, but why.
104.	Not sure about the effect. Less impact the better.
105.	Smaller the better, 38" to wide.
106.	Doesn't really matter that much.
107.	Not sure.
108.	No opinion.
109.	No opinion.
110.	unsure

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
111.	It seems like that would be harder on the rice plants
112.	Really doesn't matter.
113.	Over 36" damages standing grain in crosswind.
114.	Used to be no longer than 16'? Which I would support.
115.	If it would damage the beds, no- if not then no difference.
116.	most boats are 36"
117.	Works good this way with less damage.

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches
118.	Don't know how a diff. This is.
119.	The smaller boats are easier on the rice plants.
120.	I think 36" is plenty wide.
121.	I think wider canoes would just knock down more rice plants.
122.	Wider is harder to push.
123.	Who wants to pole a bigger boat? I don't think a larger boat would have or give any advantage.
124.	No reason too.
125.	A lot of people using 38" wide now, then they will have 40" wide.
126.	36 is plenty.
127.	I am concerned that wider watercraft will cause more damage to the stalks.
128.	More challenging to pole and I believe more destruction/broken and bent stalks with larger craft.
129.	Historical reasons to limit sizes of boats etc. are good ones.
130.	36" is good.
131.	36" is adequate.
132.	Potentially increased damage to rice beds might occur.
133.	36" is plenty. 36" does enough damage.
134.	wider boats lay over more rice in the boat trail making it slightly more likely to rice would snock and twist in a shorter period of time during the harvest.
135.	I like things as they are.
136.	Square stern canoes shouldn't be allowed. Too wide in back.
137.	Should be limited to canoes.
138.	Wider boats just flatten rice faster.
139.	Likely too much damage to the rice bed.
140.	Ruin the beds.
141.	Wider boats beat up the rice too much.
142.	More damage to plants.
143.	damage to wild rice with a wider boat
144.	Wrecks rice the wider the boat.
145.	Most ricers now use canoes. Thus less rice breaking and tramping.
146.	36" is wide enough, would flatten more stalks. Harder to get canoe through in shallow water.
147.	if you go 38 you may as well go to 48
148.	would destroy rice
149.	Greater impact on rice beds
150.	Make trails too wide in rice, destroys it.
151.	No reason to change.
152.	why??
153.	Will 2 inches really help get more rice or damage rice?
154.	When we do have a bumper crop a wide craft would destroy to many stocks.
155.	Impact to rice stalks.
156.	a 36" wide canoe leaves a wide enough track. No need to increase
157.	Less damage to rice fields.
158.	What would be the point of changing?

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
159.	don't damage the beds.
160.	Most canoes are 34-36" wide and are ok. Wider will damage rice beds.
161.	Ruin too much rice.
162.	Lose too much rice with wider boat, hard to reach.
163.	Destroys the crop (to big).
164.	36" boats are plenty wide.
165.	People will use boats that will ruin the rice stands.
166.	Not if it damages the plant and beds.
167.	No need for a bigger boat, plus bigger will wreck rice.
168.	A wider width would damage the stalks more.
169.	A lighter, thinner craft works better and causes less damage.
170.	More rice being flattened.
171.	No 36" is wide enough, other wise you just knock down more rice.
172.	I guess it probably doesn't matter but the current regulation is fine.
173.	It seems to me that too much cane will be pushed over- out of reach for subsequent harvest. A
174.	No need for bigger watercraft.
175.	I like what there are now.
176.	Wider boats/canoes damage wild rice.
177.	This is an absolute no.
178.	Wider then 36" is impractical.
179.	Look what bigger and bigger has done to other natural resources.
180.	Because people break the stalks on the gunnels now!
181.	What's the purpose of adding 2"?
182.	Wider isn't always better.
183.	may damage rice more
184.	Fine the way it is.
185.	No need to over harvest, reseeding lake is good.
186.	A wider watercraft will do more damage to rice.
187.	Wider boats chew up more of crop as they travel through bed.
188.	Leave it alone.
189.	The current standards are already braking too much.
190.	Maybe after Sept 10th.
191.	Wider boats may tend to lay down rice?
192.	Less damage to rice beds.
193.	very few canoes are wider than 36"
194.	Will damage rice.
195.	lays down the rice too much
196.	No need
197.	I believe if a boat gets to wide too many stalks will get broke over when pulled in boat.
198.	Would cause wider tracks in rice beds.
199.	A wider watercraft knocks down and ruins rice beds. Picture of duck boat results
200.	It leaves too wide of path through rice.
201.	Not sure. Don't want big swaths through the rice.
202.	Enough rice is knocked down at 36"

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches
203.	This would cause damage to the crop. 36" is right.
204.	36" watercraft are stable enough.
205.	You do not ever need it that wide.
206.	36" wide boat knocks down enough rice.
207.	Some flatter canoes flatten rice too much now.
208.	Makes too big of trail in the bed.
209.	I would keep it as traditional as possible
210.	Need to know reason for a change to support it. Wider boats squish more rice.
211.	Would break rule.
212.	too wide makes wider trails, knocks down more rice.
213.	Rice already gets compressed with 36" wide boat. 38" is too wide.
214.	knocking down more is all
215.	It will ruin stalks (lays it down) keep it traditional.
216.	36" wide is ok.
217.	Wider watercraft will do more damage to the rice.
218.	Ruin the rice if wider.
219.	It's hard on wild rice crops.
220.	Canoes only.
221.	Damage to rice will occur as stems are spread apart and pushed under with boat passage.
222.	Hard enough getting rice into a canoe.
223.	Can hardly push 36" boat through good rice/knock down too much rice.
224.	36" is more than adequate.
225.	Such width extension would increase amount of rice harvested per unit time and return fewer grains back into the lake as seed for next year.
226.	For the health of the rice.
227.	Wider craft break down rice stalks in thick beds.
228.	Wider watercraft would knock more rice off into lakes.
229.	to wide wider boat will damage more rice stalks.
230.	Flat bottom boats should be outlawed!
231.	Too much damage to rice beds.
232.	Wider boats will damage more rice.
233.	You can always come in and dump your load and go out again.
234.	36 inches is a good width for ricers and the rice beds.
235.	would knock down to much rice, also to hard to push.
236.	I support legislation keeping it as close to tradition as possible.
237.	Not necessary.
238.	Canoe is fine
239.	damage to rice
240.	36" is enough. Wider craft greatly damage beds as in the days of old flat bottom rice boats.
241.	enough damage is done w/ the 36" boats
242.	It's tradition.
243.	Too much destruction of beds already.
244.	more rice would be broken & pushed down with wider watercrafts.
245.	Narrow flattens less rice, 38 may be ok.

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
246.	What you got in mind that fits that criteria?
247.	Narrow craft do less damage to rice straw.
248.	Big swaths through beds knock down more rice.
249.	watercraft is currently big enough
250.	36" is enough. Wider craft greatly damage beds as in the days of old flat bottom rice boats.
251.	Rice knock down and kill would be too high.
252.	Wider boats can do more damage to beds.
253.	larger canoes would flatten more stalks and generally cause more damage
254.	Pretty soon 40"? Then pontoon boats.
255.	Damaging to the bed. No good reasons to allow wider boats except greed.
256.	Will only make a bigger trail.
257.	The wider the boat means more damaged rice.
258.	Breaks the rice and leaves a bad trail.
259.	Breaks the rice and leaves a trail of destruction.
260.	It would knock more rice down and tangle up the rice bed.
261.	36 is ok.
262.	Indifferent.
263.	Would be harder to harvest- may damage more rice.
264.	Wider boat will just lay down more rice.
265.	You would damage too much rice.
266.	would destroy too many plants
267.	Cause move rice to be knocked over during harvest.
268.	Knock too much rice over when you go through it.
269.	Again- other than commercial operators, no need.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
270.	some Alumacraft canoes are 38" Grumman 36".
271.	Many traditional Anishiinaabe birch bark ricing canoes were/are wider than 36"
272.	most canoes are manufactured to this width
273.	some canoe models are slightly wider than 36"
274.	It really makes no difference.
275.	38" would be less tippy
276.	most Grumman's with the thwarts are 38" wide anyway.
277.	it doesn't seem 2 more inches would hurt the rice.
278.	if you can find someone to push it.
279.	38" would allow for better picks.
280.	if it doesn't hurt rice.
281.	It would be safer
282.	see new canoe widths
283.	most canoes are 38"
284.	most canoes are 38"
285.	Canoe should be 19 ft.

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
286.	Do not think it will reduce rice crop.
287.	not many ricers, it only harder to push
288.	I don't think 2 inches would harm the beds.
289.	Little more stable, it shouldn't hurt rice.
290.	More stable and handle more rice.
291.	Canoe length should be up to 19 feet long.
292.	There is so few ricers that it wouldn't matter.
293.	Some popular canoe models (old town) are 37 inches wide.
294.	ok
295.	But wider restricted to canoes.
296.	Airboats should be allowed like in Canada.
297.	Most commercial made canoes are at least 36" wide.
298.	2 more inches wouldn't hurt.
299.	Some Alumacraft and Grumman canoes are 37.5".
300.	It wouldn't hurt and would make for less tips in the drink.
301.	More pounds of rice in watercraft with wider watercraft.
302.	Alumacraft's are 37 1/4" wide, some fiberglass are 38" wide.
303.	If one removes one of two swaths, the canoe gets that wide eventually.
304.	Maybe- Is the intent to limit harvest to canoes?
305.	Some canoes are that wide.
306.	Two inches doesn't matter.
307.	Safer.
308.	Fine, but a 2" difference isn't all that more beneficial.
309.	I had two 8 year olds in a canoe, It would be nice for stability with kids.
310.	Because we need a large boat to put our rice in that will fit 700-800lbs in 5-6 hours, according to lake bottom and location.
311.	42"
312.	Most Grumman canoes spread over 36"
313.	If they are canoes only.
314.	Some 17' stern back are good ricing canoes.
315.	For larger people that have trouble with a canoe.
316.	Old law- wider boats are not practical anyway.
317.	A lot of boats are that wide anyway.
318.	When canoes get older esp. alum. They tend to spread.
319.	Change would be ok.
320.	More rice w/less trip if good.
321.	If standard canoes are 38" wide.
322.	My canoe is borderline width, would rather be certain I'm legal.
323.	1/2 foot long would be good.
324.	I don't think 2" would hurt beds.
325.	Many canoes are 38".
326.	I don't believe 2" in more would make any difference.
327.	Some canoes are wider than 36".
328.	Minimal impact except to the pros.
329.	Another 2" wouldn't matter other than benefiting the harvester.

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
330.	Don't know how many this would affect; maybe a few canoes / boats.
331.	Two inches is no big deal.
332.	lots of canoes are over 36" wide.
333.	Most people are at that 38" or more now.
334.	safer
335.	Can't see this being much of an issue.
336.	Design standards of canoes are not easily found 36' and less.
337.	Most canoes would measure 38.
338.	I believe that with less ricers there is plenty of seed falling in on its own.
339.	What's 2 inches.
340.	More stability.
341.	If 38 inches is more common.
342.	Some canoes are slightly wider than 36".
343.	dose not matter to me
344.	whatever...
345.	Allumacraft camper canoe is 38" (same as regular canoe in rice beds).
346.	Many 36" wide canoes widen out anyway with the brace out and a load of rice.
347.	Provide stability for the less adept. As long as there would be no damage to stalks.
348.	Probably wouldn't hurt anything.
349.	Hard to find a narrow canoe.
350.	As long as it is a canoe.
351.	So I can use my dock boat

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - No Response to Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
352.	Unless there is some reason.
353.	I guess the boat would be more stable, but would it take in to much rice??
354.	Undecided
355.	No opinion.
356.	Same comment as 13.
357.	I think some already use larger boats than allowed by regulations.
358.	Doesn't matter- not a priority issue.
359.	Don't care
360.	No opinion
361.	No opinion
362.	I have no opinion on this- we just rice for our own use.
363.	This one doesn't matter.
364.	why - if it allows use of current why not boats
365.	not sure what impact would be
366.	What's the point?
367.	does not impact me
368.	No opinion.
369.	I don't know enough about this issue.

Appendix I: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Watercraft Width Increase, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - No Response to Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
370.	I don't have an opinion either way.
371.	No opinion.
372.	No opinion.
373.	Not enough experience to comment
374.	Don't have enough experience for valid opinion.
375.	Not sure but probably yes.
376.	Unsure.
377.	Don't know enough.
378.	Not sure.
379.	no opinion

2004-2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Change in Watercraft Width to 38 inches	
380.	Wider boats would just knock down rice.
381.	2" on every boat knocks down a lot of rice in one day.

**Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Nonresidents 7-day License, 2007**

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - No Response to Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
1.	maybe
2.	only if pheasant hunting in Dakotas is extended. Restrictions should be lifted, but only if all states
3.	For who? Is this a trick question to include non-Indian? With more jurisdiction since you got our foot in the door?
4.	Not sure
5.	Undecided
6.	Prefer a season- long license.
7.	How would this impact harvest.
8.	Undecided- it is the commons; however, less rice and more competition/pressure on many local
9.	They should not be able to rice.
10.	It doesn't matter.
11.	How about a 3 or 4-day license.
12.	Spare the rice/reseeding is essential, right?
13.	Not sure but probably not. (want to keep ricing for locals who know how to respect manoomin.
14.	Depends on how many licenses are sold annually now.
15.	No thoughts here.
16.	It doesn't matter.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
17.	Problem is finding a partner with time to pick rice. I have a nephew who would like to rice with me but is a Nonresident. He works M-F but could come 3 weekends during ricing. A 7-day license would only allow one weekends. Cost of license needs to be low or it won't work
18.	I think we should encourage out of state ricers.
19.	But 7 days may be too long. What about 3 days, they can pick the day. North Dakota residents could wait 7 days after a given lake opens (like the delay NO giver to non-resident hunters). They should be able to get enough for personal use, not enough to
20.	more people into rice the better.
21.	that be ok by me.
22.	It's more fare, it should be expensive though.
23.	7 days would be ok but 3 days is sufficient.
24.	Why not.
25.	There's enough rice for them too.
26.	Native Americans believe mahnomon to be a gift from the great spirit. Yes it should be made more accessible to more people.
27.	This is an important cultural event- please open to more people.
28.	Good for local economy if their willing to stay longer.
29.	It will provide more money to the state (2 day weekend pass).
30.	Its hard work if they are willing why not.
31.	We need to keep the new and existing rice plants operating to their fullest potential.
32.	Both 1 and 7 day should be issued maybe in 3 day.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
33.	And allow for 7 day resident
34.	License is prohibitively expensive, especially for those who just want to try ricing for a day or two.
35.	More people we have harvesting and interested in wild rice the better.
36.	If same applies to their state and Canada's providence.
37.	Gives you more rice time than running to buy daily.
38.	To use 7 days you have to be serious about it. It's good revenue, and it may get more people out instead of fewer people.
39.	Charge them more money. Why does the government have to be so punitive and greedy. What's next- a daily permit to pick blue berries?
40.	Friends would visit state to participate.
41.	If people want to come and harvest rice for a week, that's fine with me, as long as they pay more.
42.	I lived, was raised in MN for 30 years and I rice out of family traditions.
43.	Relatives would be encouraged to return to MN from out of state.
44.	I think more people would buy them and more people would get involved in something that is becoming a thing of the past.
45.	Day would make more sense (2 fall weekends).
46.	I recommend keeping non-resident cost for a license the same, but making it good for 7 days instead of 1 day.
47.	Change them enough to make it worthwhile.
48.	Any 1 day could be weathered out or they problems.
49.	As long as the day license is available.
50.	Not much pressure now from locals vicinity.
51.	Very few non-residents so it won't make much difference.
52.	Some people like to rice.
53.	I could invite out state friends and family to experience ricing.
54.	More people ricing would be good for the over all culture.
55.	WI or other surrounding state residents.
56.	I would leave family members from other states come and go out with me.
57.	I think that most non-residents go ricing for the outdoor experience enjoyment and a 7-day license would add to their experience by giving them a little more time to choose their days.
58.	Don't care really- if the rice is good, there's plenty for everyone.
59.	The weather can affect when one goes, it would be good to have a little margin of time.
60.	I live 200 yards from the MN border – I paddle 100's of miles in MN each year but I am limited to a costly single day of harvesting rice.
61.	So few resident ricers?
62.	I would love a 7-day license.
63.	Only if Wisconsin opens for MN residents.
64.	Yes on week or season. Poor rice can make it quite expensive. I think \$75-100 would be fair and probably bring in more money.
65.	7-day license would allow non-resident family to travel in and experience. Possible might have resident with license with them, to teach and protect bed.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
66.	More the better.
67.	Make many for the state. DNR
68.	I don't think they would over harvest the rice.
69.	I have had friends come to town and the license is so expensive they could only rice one day.
70.	I support the change so long as the license fee is commensurate with MN Non-resident fees in neighboring states.
71.	If nonresidents want to harvest, give them a better deal, then only 1 day, a lot of people live on a budget.
72.	Allow more people the experience.
73.	Why not? Allow non-residents to make a vacation out of it.
74.	something like 7 or by the day?
75.	See attachment #1
76.	Provided there is enough rice.
77.	I have out of state friends that would like to harvest.
78.	I would like to see them charge for 5 single days on a 7-day license.
79.	More revenue for state.
80.	Fewer people are picking- more non-residents would not hurt a thing.
81.	Visitors to residents should have more than 1 day- 2 or 3-day license would be ok.
82.	1 day not enough depending on weather.
83.	with the current decline in licenses this seems logical and prudent. Only so long if the price for non-residents is reduced it's currently outrageous.
84.	no license at all! Competition down.
85.	Would be better for them.
86.	If people enjoy, let them pick...nobody else does.
87.	This would give them a window to work in.
88.	Border licensing is getting out of hand.
89.	We may move, wish to come back and rice.
90.	offer both, however, if the wild rice resource is compromised by over harvesting, eliminate Non-resident harvest.
91.	Most of them will probably only rice 1 or 2 days anyway.
92.	out of state people may buy and harvest.
93.	More people learning about/repeating rice is good.
94.	Unless it becomes abused. On the subject of licenses, it would be nice to have a family or husband/wife license that is less expensive than 2 individual ones.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
95.	Do not support any non-resident licensing.
96.	I guess I think its our territory- our rice.
97.	The rice is for the people that are here.
98.	Keep non-residents away from our rice.
99.	You should live here to harvest here!

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
100.	We don't need non-residents. The taxes and fees I pay in MN are not for the benefit of non-residents. I do nothing in ND.
101.	most non-residents area from WI and have their own rice beds and state would not benefit that much to change it. Also most Non-residents may not be as experienced and could ruin some beds of rice - more comments when I see & meet you.
102.	To protect the harvest for residents.
103.	Where I rice, often 3 days the rice is pretty thin.
104.	I do support a shorter-than-season resident license for those who spend 1-2 weekends harvesting rice.
105.	MN residents already restricted by reservation lakes, no need for more people in MN.
106.	There are enough ricers now.
107.	They can harvest an adequate amount for personal use in a single day.
108.	That many days may cause more rice to be sold out of state.
109.	Whites are so restricted, a lot of people have stopped because of it.
110.	Save something for residents.
111.	They can go manage there lakes (i.e. w/DNR)
112.	Adamantly opposed.
113.	leave it in are state.
114.	They over charge us.
115.	This is unique MN grain- They may buy it.
116.	Most states restrict us on trapping and other activities.
117.	Not enough rice as it is.
118.	I'm selfish about ricing.
119.	One day at a time is enough.
120.	Could prove commercial with over harvesting.
121.	As far as I am concerned, the wild rice belongs to the Ojibwa of MN.
122.	we do not have enough for the locals to allow wholesale harvesting
123.	If a non-resident wants to rice more than 1 day, let them purchase additional days, one day at a time.
124.	It would push more rice down. I would support longer canoes.
125.	There's not enough rice now. Quantity and quality of beds is decreasing.
126.	Ricing should be for residents only.
127.	How about a 7-day resident for \$10.00 and \$5.00 for those 65 yrs and older.
128.	It's a resource for food for our family. Expenses, licenses, gas, time away from regular job have tripled but we need the rice.
129.	I believe this is a resource that is for state residents.
130.	I'd like to preserve this as a Minnesota resource.
131.	A one-day license lets anyone experience ricing. A 7-day license now allows them to compete with local residents!!!
132.	I don't believe we need the extra traffic.
133.	I would not support anything that would make it easier for Non-resident crews to sweep through our lakes.
134.	Crews of Mexicans will come and take it all.
135.	It would encourage over use of a scarce resource, which in turn would require more management. Vicious circle.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License
136.	with the Indians saving their rice for last and harvesting public lands first there isn't enough rice to around sometimes.
137.	Wild rice is unique to MN. A fragile ecosystem and is under going stress due to climate change and an ever expanding population. It should be left to mainly Native Minnesotans.
138.	Non-residents don't care about damage to rice beds
139.	Focus on MN residents ricing for personal use not for commercial or resale purposes. Recreational harvesters are important to this resource!!
140.	Wild rice is unique to MN. A fragile ecosystem and is under going stress due to climate change and an ever expanding population. It should be left to mainly Native Minnesotans.
141.	Longer hours may sell more resident licenses.
142.	or no nonresidents like it was FNG, gum things up.
143.	Its competitive enough already
144.	I guess I would like some protection of MN resources kept to residents.
145.	It is our market.
146.	Keep focus on resident pickers.
147.	I would agree to 7 day when everyone can rice on Indian Reservations.
148.	I think we should keep our harvest to Minnesotans.
149.	Really doesn't matter.
150.	I don't think non-residents should have any ricing permits.
151.	I feel that they non-residents. Just should not be able to pick period.
152.	most non-residents don't know how to rice.
153.	3 w/b better; 7 may be too much.
154.	Don't encourage over-harvest of resources.
155.	Non-resident could come in, harvest for a week, and sell the rice out of state.
156.	Wild rice harvesting is a MN tradition, some years have limited supply.
157.	Preserve our rice for the local residents.
158.	We have to wait to get on the water now. The landings are packed at 9am and 3pm.
159.	This is our special area luxury or sport.
160.	? Are there really that many non-resident ricers anyway?
161.	But if one juvenile was with maybe ok.
162.	But maybe a two or three day nonresident license.
163.	There's enough pressure as there is.
164.	If they want to rice here, let them live here.
165.	They can go to Wisconsin
166.	Keep it for Minnesotans.
167.	They can buy a license everyday that they want.
168.	Leave it to current residents only must reside 1-year minimum.
169.	I would also like to know why a Native American can harvest rice on public land but a non-native American can't harvest on the reservation.
170.	I consider it a privilege for them to even harvest in our state.
171.	They can buy their rice from MN residents.
172.	I have to get three licenses, (state, tribal, and 1854 auth.)
173.	More funding+ more habitat in theory and it seems one must work for a good haul as it is.
174.	If they are picking for their own use 1 day is enough.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
175.	Ricing is a MN tradition.
176.	Because we need the money not the competition.
177.	Non-residents should buy only state licenses. No matter how many days they rice.
178.	2 or 3 day at the most.
179.	Leave rice for the loons.
180.	Could lead to over harvest.
181.	I would need to find out more info. Ex: How many residents currently harvest?
182.	MN crop for MN!
183.	Except to gather state fees, what would this accomplish.
184.	Beds are getting enough pressure now. Whose dumb idea is this.
185.	Unless other states lift their restrictions (fishing, hunting, etc.)
186.	They may purchase multiple one-day license if more opportunity is desired.
187.	I don't care either way.
188.	non-residents should not be allowed to harvest rice in MN.
189.	2 or 3 day at most.
190.	Only if their state reciprocates.
191.	There is enough pressure on good lakes, without more out of staters ricing.
192.	They don't pay enough to manage rice as is.
193.	perhaps a 2 day license
194.	With appropriate fee, I would support a one-day permit.
195.	How about a 3-day instead.
196.	Lower the cost for residents.
197.	Not if the start date remains in July.
198.	Absolutely not. (Don't let non-residents have 7 day).

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - No Response to Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
199.	Need more info. To give you an informed answer.
200.	Would need more information to make a decision.
201.	since I don't know what the impact would be I don't feel I should indicate a preference one this one.
202.	I don't know enough about this to comment.
203.	What are the expected ramifications?
204.	Not sure.
205.	It doesn't matter to me.
206.	unsure
207.	I don't know if our crops can support it. If there is enough to go around sure. With this past drought-no.
208.	Not sure
209.	\$30 per day is outrageous.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Supports Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
210.	Give them both options
211.	Why not?
212.	I don't think it would bring that many people in.
213.	For higher fees used to patrol and support ricing beds.
214.	I don't know the impact; maybe a harvest weight-limit should accompany the 7-day pass.
215.	If you pick with a resident you should be able to purchase a license fee the whole season for a
216.	If they are property in MN.
217.	Sometimes it takes 2-3-4 days to eat.
218.	would make it a little easier for visitors
219.	For non-commercial purposes only.
220.	With reasonable license fee! I would like to have the opportunity for affordable ricing in my
221.	Offer both (more revenue)
222.	why not let more people... could be a tourist thing to do.
223.	Many people visit the area for about a week.
224.	again, why not - I've done a lot of ricing solo and sometimes for 8-10 lbs for the day.
225.	I have brothers that grew up in MN and would like to rice but with the one day license is inconvenient.
226.	they may travel long distances and make substantial investments
227.	For personal use only.
228.	Some non-residents come back to MN for the summer. Some like to harvest rice.
229.	But keep the 7-day one as well.
230.	We should always be liberal and reasonable for non-residents since often we go to their states to hunt and fish.
231.	Either allows them to rice, or not. One day is not appropriate.
232.	Why not? Not many ricers anymore.
233.	as an option
234.	relatives visiting seasonally
235.	Only if reasonably priced!
236.	Plenty of rice to go around.
237.	Let's them get enough rice to be worthwhile but also shows them how hard it really is to go multiple days.
238.	cost of license very high for one day - esp. for a retiree who moved from MN.
239.	Non-resident licenses are excessively expensive.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
240.	They should rice in their own areas.
241.	I see no reason to do so, yet a 2 or 3 day license would be nice.
242.	The rice crop is for MN residents and the crop is limited.
243.	Any money-making activity should be closed to non-residents. (Trapping also)
244.	Rice should be for licensed residents and band members.
245.	Let Minnesotans harvest- we pay the taxes. I don't think there should be any out of state licenses.
246.	If they want to play they can get up and go get one by nine o'clock.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
247.	It is hard enough to find good rice without lots of people.
248.	yes, we harvest as a family. When my brother relocated out of state (WI) we discontinued our annual harvest.
249.	certain restrictions are required to protect our Residential rice crop.
250.	Non-residents need not apply
251.	Wild rice is a state of MN product and should be kept that way.
252.	Does the Dakotas let us hunt opener? Ducks, pheasants?
253.	Back when I was in my teens.
254.	Sorry that's just the way it is on this one. They can get a multiday license for every other natural resource we have,
255.	I support extremely limited licenses for out of staters.
256.	This is a benefit to living in MN.
257.	Depends upon price and if they can purchase more than one day at the time they purchase the first license. Purchase 2 or 3 one day license for consecutive days.
258.	Should be a resident to harvest rice.
259.	Other states (ND) are restricting hunting etc. for non-residents. A seven-day license is for all practical purposes an entire season.
260.	Would out of state market ricers take too much?
261.	It would encourage over harvest.
262.	This can enable non-residents (commercial) ricers to harvest out an area.
263.	Non-residents should not be allowed to harvest wild rice for more than the current 1 day.
264.	The ricing is so poor it doesn't make sense to have 1-day license as some days the wind is to strong to rice.
265.	No South Dakota residents. \$200 for North Dakota residents for 10 minutes per season.
266.	Leave the rice to those who pay MN taxes.
267.	It would encourage more ricing for commercial use- except for Native Americans.
268.	I don't want outsiders harvesting our rice.
269.	Can MN residents rice in Wisconsin? It should be residents only.
270.	what would that do to the rice for me.
271.	would be nice if only 1 license was required per watercraft!!
272.	Limit out-state harvest.
273.	If quotas on non-resident were in place it might be acceptable.
274.	2 day at most (weekend warriors).
275.	Nonresident should not be able to harvest rice.
276.	This privilege belongs to 1st nation people. 7 day would promote "profit" making by larger pool.
277.	I would support a 3-day nonresident license.
278.	Too much risk of over harvesting for commercial purposes then!!
279.	You could consider a 3-day.
280.	Two days would be ok. That's enough to get a pressable batch. No more than two.
281.	It's our rice, plus, our state and Indian people need the income.
282.	I do not support non-resident ricing.
283.	MN residents live here and pay taxes here.
284.	Control on quality.

Appendix J: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Nonresident 7-day License, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Opposes Establishing a 7-day Nonresident License	
285.	Too much of our resources go to nonresidents.
286.	Have a 3-day license for "residents."
287.	Non-residents should not be ricing.

**Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007**

Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
1.	What happened to Big Rice lake north of Virginia? This management?
2.	The 7 years out of the last 22 I did not pick. The first 2 were lack of a partner; the last 5 missed were lack of rice.
3.	Post dates at all rice beds.
4.	See below.
5.	I can buy rice for \$5.00/lb and use under 10 lbs (that is less than doing it).
6.	Commitments with kids getting back to school.
7.	The cost of license is out of proportion.
8.	I eat what I pick, process my own.
9.	Cost, the license cost is so high it requires you to collect a large amount to make it worthwhile.
10.	Weather- quality of crop
11.	Temperature, last few years have seen 80-degree days- miserable.
12.	Knowing the start or opening day to harvest- because some people harvest the rice before it is ripe.
13.	Under tribal control.
14.	The license is very expensive! (especially if one races only a few times.)
15.	Knowing the ricing hours.
16.	1- Other commitments that time of year.
17.	Husband/wife both have to pay license- household preferred.
18.	Husband and wife both have to but licenses.
19.	1- Cost of license.
20.	Young pickers don't want to spend 50 dollars to "learn".
21.	The lake we rice on is under tribal control and is often opened to late for good harvesting.
22.	Finance tied to rapidly, dramatically increasing license fees.
23.	I usually went by self- hard to pole and harvest efficiently.
24.	Travel to site is 1 hour.
25.	Cost of license for 65 and over could be reduced (or deleted).
26.	wind, rain, high water, low water.
27.	Getting older
28.	Processor- who will process small quantities, 100 pounds or less?
29.	good crop quantity on lakes accessible to me.
30.	The license fee is too expensive.
31.	Picking before rice is ripe post lake.
32.	Finding rice that is thick and ripe enough.
33.	I didn't harvest rice, I tended pot thrashing, jiggling the harvested rice. I got a license in case they needed to go out in the canoe to harvest.
34.	thin beds near north shore
35.	It's not hot in the fall now with climate change.
36.	Global warming- too hot, too dry. Too high with gas going up.
37.	rice bed quality and unpredictability - rice one year, none the next
38.	Interest
39.	The license fee is way too high! (what do we get for it?)
40.	Drop the regulation and the license, except for the ripe rice requirement.

Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
41.	The wind d weather.
42.	Time off from work, school, and guards.
43.	quality of the local rice bed
44.	You doubled the price of a license: that hurt!.
45.	Back problems
46.	\$50 for both of us, for our own use is high.
47.	More advance notices of opening time for each lake.
48.	It's too much work for most.
49.	Knowing where to go.
50.	water level insufficient
51.	Birds getting to the rice first - or storms, but that's just fine by me.
52.	I rice about 3 days a season, keep the rice, cost of license is too much. That is why I rice about every 2-3 years.
53.	Have a good crop year.
54.	Scheduling work around ripeness time. Need to drive a ways to monitor the lake we rice.
55.	Usually work till 4:00 so being able to rice in afternoon to sunset would be good.
56.	Quality of rice.
57.	Other work and finding good processor of small lots.
58.	Finding a 36" width canoe!
59.	the license is now much too expensive for the subsistence harvesting I do (i.e. 3 days).
60.	Getting older, crippled up- partner too. Weather #1, closeness to home #2.
61.	finding processor for little amount I harvest
62.	License are too expensive.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
63.	the small lakes should not be posted on the DNR web site, because you get 30 to 40 canoes per lake (too many). I have always been against posting any lake on web site. People are going to early, takes its toll on the crop.
64.	Quality/quantity of rice due water levels during growing season.
65.	Bad weather
66.	Agg hard work!
67.	low water conditions
68.	Getting older- bad shoulders.
69.	the one-day license is expensive for amateurs who go 1x per year.
70.	the 1-day license is expensive for amateurs who go 1x per year.
71.	Designate more lakes for wild rice and restrict the use of motorized watercraft- We have enough lakes for fishing, not enough for rice ecosystems.
72.	Increased commercial ricing license.
73.	Fees are too high.
74.	Gas and the ricing license is too high.
75.	timing of ripe rice is most important
76.	no time limit, pick all day
77.	1 Greedy people when they try to harvest when its green.
78.	the illegal posting of Onamia lake

Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
79.	cost of license too high. Only pick after work 3:00 pm closing time sucks!
80.	knowing how to process
81.	A "shrouded" electric trolling motor would allow more people to rice (seniors 65+).
82.	Water levels too low.
83.	Weather
84.	License cost is excessive. No one picks public lakes to get rich.
85.	1- finding lakes.
86.	Need to know in advance when Res. Opens seasons on different lakes.
87.	Weather
88.	too busy to work :>)
89.	Having the time when the rice is ripe.
90.	lake residents poisoning and destroying lake rice and shore
91.	It is better when the lake are posted open because of some people going out too early.
92.	None of the other above.
93.	Only want 15 lbs for personal use and the license fee is too high for that.
94.	Water levels.
95.	Legal harvesting hours and cost of license.
96.	Growing conditions. Some years there is no rice.
97.	Going out on the bed after other people have beat up the rice stalks.
98.	many lakes no longer have rice due to development and water fluctuation.
99.	a list of rice processors in the state would be helpful
100.	low water
101.	I'm retired and need the rice for food- doubling the fees hurts the poor
102.	License cost.
103.	My employer thinks I should work not take time off for rice. Go figure. Partner - sometimes they also work couldn't time off.
104.	Water level is the worst factor.
105.	finding a rice processor close by - otherwise none.
106.	finding lakes where the rice hasn't been flattened by people ricing way to early.
107.	rice being beaten down by people harvesting prematurely
108.	None
109.	We sell our early rice and keep the rest.
110.	Sometimes the reservation plays politics with opening time.
111.	Low water.
112.	The hours of 9 am to 3 pm.
113.	Appreciate DNR rating the lake crop.
114.	Generally people begin harvesting too soon, green rice.
115.	Expensive license and gas to continually check for ripeness.
116.	Knowing how to harvest.
117.	Low water.
118.	Poor boat landings.
119.	By the time my partner and I pay for licenses, gas processing, etc. it is not cost-effective.
120.	Access is becoming more and more limited- private ownership of shores.
121.	Collect for personal consumption. Cigenee too expensive

Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
122.	Young children in our family now.
123.	I have mostly picked alone the last 15 years.
124.	The 9 am - 3 pm are too restrictive.
125.	Fearing possible future genetic pollution from GE wild rice!
126.	No longer limiting but was off and on for years.
127.	Finding managed lakes that are at proper level.
128.	do your home work and things work out
129.	Water levels.
130.	Licenses are too expensive for those of us who harvest only for personal use.
131.	knowing whether a lake is open or not (some lakes are posted with certain days only).
132.	Travel time and days off from work- I take advantage of labor day.
133.	100 percent increase in license. I go every other year now.
134.	Cost of the license.
135.	See comment on attached #1 Question 16
136.	People in control of some rice beds.
137.	Taking rice when is ready on time is important because it ripens in layers.
138.	Water level, high speed boats!
139.	Experience- still learning
140.	Lake access to some lakes very poor.
141.	Sometimes finding a partner.
142.	The travel time is hard. We have to return 90 miles each day in order to properly dry the rice.
143.	The new plant near Deerwood helped a lot. Also Grand Rapids buyers.
144.	Too expensive of license/nothing being done with license money.
145.	Higher prices for green rice.
146.	Water levels, some of the best rice is impossible to harvest.
147.	Still just learning.
148.	Bad weather.
149.	Marketing processed rice.
150.	I pick only for my own use and give to friends.
151.	Having enough time available to rice.
152.	Experience w/identifying ripe beds.
153.	Many beds seem to have poor crops lately.
154.	Back problems.
155.	No water you can't harvest.
156.	You charge residents to much money for license.
157.	Low water.
158.	Making sure rice is ripe enough.
159.	Cost of license.
160.	People picking green rice and ruining the bed of rice before it is ripe.
161.	Better cooperation between tribal and state, so a person knows what lake is open and when.
162.	Lack of reliable info about start dates on each lake.
163.	Time- because I work I can only rice weekends.
164.	Age
165.	cost of license - I harvest for personal use only. It's hard to justify \$52.00 in license fees for 50 lbs of green rice.

Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
166.	water level
167.	I love wild ricing and would love to support all efforts to protect this harvest and increase its viability as a way for the Native community to earn a living.
168.	The DNR would check the rice beds and keep us informed where the good rice was at.
169.	It is a Labor Day weekend tradition to do some wild rice.
170.	Financial expense of license is mind blowing- it doubled in 1 year, ridiculous. How can you expect to promote this sport/harvest if you double the residential fee? Think!
171.	Water levels.
172.	Time on the water, lets go sunrise to sunset.
173.	Low water was nice when more lakes were posted with opening dates.
174.	Weather conditions, water levels.
175.	Low water levels have been the biggest problem lately.
176.	Rice gets beat up bad when its green- does not have time to ripe.
177.	Water level conditions.
178.	The 1854 treaty authority web site is great! That kind of info. For other areas would be helpful.
179.	Relying on mom to drive us there.
180.	Pore crop- weather.
181.	we call our processor (he's native) and has heard news!
182.	Distance traveled.
183.	Not being able to rice all waters.
184.	Finding areas which are ripe yet not already pounded.
185.	non-resident status
186.	Rice crop has been declining last several years, lucky if there was 40 acres of harvestable rice on 2,000 acre lake.
187.	Buyers are hard to find.
188.	Finding good ripe rice to harvest.
189.	High water and carp.
190.	Finding time.
191.	time - 3 pm ending
192.	After 37 years, I make sure I'm prepared.
193.	High price of gas and high price of state license.
194.	This is first time I had a problem finding partner.
195.	Hour of harvest, should be longer.
196.	Whether it's a good or bad rice year.
197.	We want labor day opener.
198.	Work is hard and am getting old.
199.	We use a lot of wild rice at times if I knew a processor for private use I would consider it,
200.	Weather and ? That set artificial water depth.
201.	I work
202.	Lack of management- Beaver control, re-seeding, investigation of failed crops.
203.	Weather effects on the rice.
204.	DNR need to share more info when and where rice is ripe.
205.	Finding good patties to rice, finding tome to go.
206.	3- Pickerel weed on big rice/habitat degradation.
207.	Time off when conditions and rice are ready (during week).

Appendix K: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Harvesting Limiting Factors, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Barriers to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
208.	Water levels, can you end this drought?
209.	I rely on the 1854 web site for reg. Reports.
210.	I love to rice alone.
211.	Public access and docks.
212.	We live right by Cramer lake, so distance and equipment not a problem. Biggest challenge is
213.	Do better job of posting lakes.
214.	License is very expensive for the amount of rice I harvest.
215.	Increased license fee, 6-hour day.
216.	Rice harvesting is not easy if the license fee goes up, I quit.
217.	Not knowing when lakes away from home are ready to harvest.
218.	Cost of license is ridiculous for me and my two sons 12 and 13.
219.	Physical revulsion of driving through twin cities and Brainerd.
220.	Water levels.
221.	It costs to travel, we are paid coolie wages.
222.	Cost of license with other expense like fuel.
223.	Closing time of 3:00 pm, working families only harvest in the evenings- have to take time off work now, very limiting.
224.	Knowing when DNR/state is buyer.
225.	Local rice crop conditions.
226.	The window for harvest is short and if the wind blows hard, it's done.
227.	No canoe
228.	Low water level, Big rice, Little rice.
229.	Access to the lakes.
230.	Nonresident restrictions and cost.

**Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007**

Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
1.	We try to harvest in small, remote, isolated lakes other people don't use.
2.	6
3.	1- none
4.	We hand process our rice and we take only enough for eating not selling.
5.	None of above.
6.	License cost is ? For the casual ricer.
7.	I have enough information.
8.	I don't need more information.
9.	Heck, I don't want everyone out there.
10.	Less expensive license for non-resident who before retired lived in MN 55 yrs.
11.	Help my partner lose 100 pounds.
12.	6
13.	Don't know when will harvest again.
14.	When lake is open.
15.	License fee should be smaller or discontinued.
16.	1- Historical and indigenous techniques.
17.	Contact list of individual harvesters who want partner, by county.
18.	I have enough knowledge, contacts stem/don't need info.
19.	I harvest for my own rice, I do not sell my rice.
20.	6
21.	As with hunting/fishing I enjoy the challenge of ricing on my own.
22.	How to harvest and when to harvest would be important for someone starting without an experienced partner.
23.	None of the other info is anything I need.
24.	DNR controls date big rice opening. Nothing in paper or news med. When ricing begins.
25.	Lower the price of the license. It went up a few years ago, why? It's not the harvesters ruining the patties,
26.	Needs an opening day that varies with conditions.
27.	Its great how it is.
28.	A cheaper license. It is a huge amount of work. To much money for how much gets put back.
29.	Time
30.	I check lake myself and know where to go.
31.	Being able to gather rice on committee lakes.
32.	The DNR used to send us a survey of all lakes that had wild rice.
33.	1. Local area informational meetings would be great!!
34.	posting at public access when rice is ready
35.	1. Lower permit fee, or pro-rated fee based on how many pounds harvested.
36.	Timing when to harvest w/weather and my time off.
37.	Being able to rice until sunset would be huge.
38.	A comprehensive book/study in how best to preserve the resource.
39.	not having to get any license.
40.	How to rice alone
41.	Need local reports on ripening.
42.	We know some local lakes, but want to avoid tribal areas.

Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
43.	Reasonable fees for non-natives.
44.	listing of lakes and status of rice that year.
45.	How to process yourself (native way)
46.	We can't afford to rice with license at \$23.00 and gas so high.
47.	Not important really
48.	one license per canoe!
49.	DNR should fly over beds and be avail to communicate
50.	we only harvest enough for our personal use and process it ourselves
51.	1. Rice bed improvements water level controls
52.	Too old
53.	Time off work when rice is ripe. See #13
54.	The state to regulate opening dates, post lakes.
55.	No problem about the above list (expense only).
56.	Current conditions and locations of rice lakes.
57.	The cost of the license, reduce cost so small amount could be collected.
58.	None of the above.
59.	information is not an issue - cost of license is.
60.	Higher prices.
61.	Don't give out where to harvest locations please.
62.	When I go it's for myself and I go traditional, I do not sell.
63.	Process list would be very helpful. Word of mouth right now. Some processors shut down early.
64.	I would rather information was not given out.
65.	4- How to process wild rice myself.
66.	There should be reduced price license after age 60. Also, 7am opening would help elderly because it would be cooler.
67.	I would feel somewhat nervous about the idea of publishing info on ricing location.
68.	I like the 1854 Authority web site for rice info.
69.	Have no problems with any of these.
70.	6
71.	If big rice does not come back then finding rice on other lakes.
72.	None of the above as I harvest only for my own use.
73.	Lower the license fee.
74.	Which lakes are open which days- eliminate confusion.
75.	Have a 3-day license "residents" and lower the price.
76.	License is too expensive for a 1-2 day junket.
77.	We used to sell on the lake or on the street corner- no buyers anymore.
78.	Web

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
79.	Continued health.
80.	None- I always check to see if it's ripe.
81.	Neither.

Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
82.	DNR must check lakes and rivers more often. Issue citations for ricing green rice.
83.	When I run out.
84.	Water accesses
85.	Access to lakes.
86.	I would like to have a processor within an hour of home.
87.	Info on ricing boat suppliers.
88.	physical challenge
89.	I'm V.A. (100% disabled) but my partner works, so...
90.	After 60 years of ricing I think mother nature is the one we have to deal with.
91.	ok now.
92.	I'm sure all of these would be important to me.
93.	how to process
94.	enough info already
95.	carp and high water are destroying rice.
96.	define what constitutes "green" rice
97.	Too much green rice being picked due to no postings on lakes.
98.	No problems
99.	Ricing info need not be distributed by the DNR any more than blueberry patch info.
100.	closing time and cost of license
101.	Lower the license fee.
102.	Better lake access
103.	"Scouting is harder every year (limited time) and I don't always go or get to the best (ripeness) beds".
104.	I feel that harvesters pick rice before it is ripe
105.	Open lakes only when ripe not when their green.
106.	A state web site like the 1854 treaty site with up.
107.	Putting someone in charge that has been ricing instead of school boys.
108.	1- Weekly updates of ripeness by region on DNR web site.
109.	Cheaper license.
110.	conditions of rice beds in a timely manner or DNR web site.
111.	Price would be the most important
112.	clear bad weeds
113.	Proc list - put on web site or in handbook. Where-what lakes have harvestable wild rice. When-when is rice ready on each particular lake.
114.	To open lakes when they are ripe.
115.	I do not need help finding rice or a processor.
116.	None of these affect me, I'll rice until I'm too old to pole.
117.	Time during season.
118.	1- Preventing genetic modification of wild rice.
119.	Regulations and cost of license.
120.	Longer hours.
121.	Water level info and updates and scout reports.
122.	Small processors
123.	Learning more about how to process it ourselves.
124.	1854 web site good for areas covered- more complete list would be awesome.

Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
125.	I will rice regardless. Most ricers these days with years of training. Just quit posting lakes unless it is a reservation lake and C.O.s are properly trained to know rice. State C.O.s
126.	laws to prevent lake destruction
127.	Time and talents are the only limits.
128.	List of lakes and how much they have on them.
129.	See where I'm going with this. Help if you can.
130.	6
131.	I consider myself quite experienced.
132.	Other lakes through out state- (list)
133.	rice ripen different time same location, and other location also.
134.	the fee is excessive
135.	I do not think 'where to harvest' should be published.
136.	let people who do not live on the Reservation harvest on the Reservation.
137.	Part of ricing is scouting. If the DNR provides this info, then good lakes may get crowded.
138.	I'd like to have more information
139.	What lake ripen early.
140.	1- Lower license fees.
141.	we usually can find a buyer, but there seems to be fewer each year.
142.	none of these are relevant to an experienced ricer. Water level management (beaver control) limit shoreline development & motor use.
143.	How to keep from growing old.
144.	where to get posting info.
145.	I feel too many harvesters pick rice before it is ripe.
146.	Again, be on top of things...
147.	6
148.	green rice has to be protected. Lakes must be monitored and posted till ripe.
149.	To teach people not to break stalks.
150.	Do not need help
151.	Paddy rice not being called wild rice.
152.	None of the above matters- I will rice until I can't or I die.
153.	Physical shape
154.	None, this is primarily a personal challenge for me.
155.	1- Don't over promote resource- there's plenty people harvesting.
156.	Some people break all the stalks.
157.	Keep people from picking green rice and destroying the bed.
158.	Make time easier.
159.	Don't spend more money, 1-day subsistence license for \$11.00.
160.	How to do my own processing.
161.	5- Storage, recipes.
162.	Clearly stated regulations given a long with license, including fines if disobeyed.
163.	3- Finding partner and right times with partners.
164.	I have to drive to keep checking.
165.	Lower the fee to coincide with the money spent on regulation.
166.	Nothing
167.	Age

Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice
168.	Clinics on "beating" technique. Some guys are truly amazingly quick.
169.	None of the above. I will continue to rice and have the info I need.
170.	5
171.	1- list of who's paying the most per pound statewide.
172.	Need no help.
173.	License cost reduction.
174.	For small amounts.
175.	Don't need any info- need to scout yourself!
176.	Not for me, nut some people brake over too many stalks.
177.	I'm happy the way things are.
178.	Weekly or seasonal license.
179.	A good crop and good weather conditions.
180.	Better manage rice beds on state land to prevent early harvest.
181.	How to process.
182.	More accurate lake conditions.
183.	7
184.	5- Accurate information from the MN DNR.
185.	Processing info on building you own equipment.
186.	Why did the cost of a license jump from \$12.50 to 25.00
187.	Who has the right to set the water elevations on a lake, managed by state government or others.
188.	Leave laws as is!
189.	All ok.
190.	Regulate water level on prairie lake.
191.	Always looking for new spots not riced over in St. Louis and lake county.
192.	Updated info at places that sell licenses.
193.	The local harvesters know.
194.	1- Lower license price.
195.	Lake access.
196.	A list of lakes and approximate. Time that rice will be ripe.
197.	What step are taken to get rid of carp.
198.	The person who wants to harvest rice knows these things!
199.	Reduction of license fee- it takes the 1st 50 lbs of green rice to pay for 2 licenses.
200.	Buyers wanting to buy at decent price.
201.	Lowering the cost of the license.
202.	1- More time sunrise to sunset.
203.	Knowing where and when the rice is good each year is helpful.
204.	We are just ricing for ourselves and to give for gifts.
205.	Biggest problem, local DNR office (Bemidji) never knows anything if you call.
206.	The ricing culture depends on secrecy and misinformation.
207.	Save on gas
208.	Don't tell where- let people search for their rice just like a blueberry patch.
209.	Establish a web site on Lakes & crop outlook
210.	Know it all hot line would help.
211.	1- lower license cost.
212.	1- Biggest info is closing time of 3:00 pm and cost of license.

Appendix L: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Information Needs, 2007.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Information that would Help to Continue Harvesting Wild Rice	
213.	Catch rice breakers.
214.	Having the season open from 9 or 10 am to sunset would help.
215.	See comment on attachment #1 question 16.
216.	Amount on good H2O conditions.
217.	Having proper equipment.
218.	After 40+ years, I need little information.
219.	Chair persons of lake unable to locate 95% of time.
220.	Rice committee opens the season.
221.	People should check rice themselves.
222.	6- Internet forecast-open dates. Example-1854 authority has limited forecasts.
223.	Better price per pound on green rice.
224.	Where to harvest- not a good idea- let people find their own rice beds.
225.	1- Lower the license for ricing back to \$13/person.
226.	Time- ricing before work or after (sunrise to sunset).
227.	Put rocks back in outlet to original elevation since last glacier receded.
228.	The more information you have the better.
229.	Management on water levels.
230.	Lake levels.
231.	Raise water level- Big rice and Little rice.

**Appendix M: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Resources to Deliver Information, 2007**

Appendix M: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Resources to Deliver Information, 2007.

	2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Resources to Deliver information
1.	6
2.	Ricing is past on from older to younger people (knowledge).
3.	4. Coordinate w/ 1854 Authority web site
4.	Put information in local papers.
5.	2
6.	Current web site works well.
7.	same thought as above
8.	It would probably be more cost effective this way.
9.	6
10.	Keep the same as is.
11.	I don't need any further resources, thank you.
12.	6
13.	Local paper updates, but a ricer does his own scouting.
14.	1- Information posted at local sports shop.
15.	1854 Treaty web site.
16.	Being consistent with august 30 open date each year.
17.	People should be taught in person how to care for rice and beds.
18.	No computer, web site would not work for me.
19.	3- Hotline
20.	Must be real times on web site- especially due to varying dates and release to license holders.
21.	Email to license owners.
22.	Internet
23.	Sign at lake when it's ok to rice.
24.	your MN tourist letter with campgrounds and such
25.	print out from license issuer?
26.	bed condition on web site would be good.
27.	5. Coordinate w/ 1854 Authority web site.
28.	I wasn't aware that the DNR does anything to help wild rice stop the potential danger posed by introducing genetic strains of rice that could cross-pollinate.
29.	Sign age at collection sites, DNR web site.
30.	Web site only
31.	Should be published more in newspaper and TV. releases.
32.	Mail or hand out when get license.
33.	Phone call in line.
34.	I drive bye lakes and don't know if its ripe or not
35.	I don't believe a person should find out when rice is ripe by the media or DNR.
36.	6
37.	1854 web site.
38.	Give to people who buy a license.
39.	3- local newspaper
40.	Don't have computer.
41.	Not everybody has a computer.
42.	1- Pamphlet at time of license purchase.
43.	Hunting reg. Manual already has more than enough in it.

Appendix M: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Resources to Deliver Information, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Resources to Deliver information	
44.	1- Co-operations with bands.
45.	3-Updates like deer season- area maps colored by yield expected-project dates.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Resources to Deliver information to	
46.	Have web site done by someone who has riced before.
47.	3- 1854 treaty release has been helpful.
48.	Show people how to rice instead of beating down.
49.	Keep web site better updated.
50.	I believe the more informed the better.
51.	Local papers.
52.	Pamphlet available when attaining permit.
53.	Sending to licensed harvesters.
54.	Lakes should be published or posted at lake site when they're ripe and opening.
55.	Also throw in health info, recipes, a little history and biology.
56.	There was no pamphlet of info or opening date info available at licensing sites.
57.	This is the catch 22... not sure I want it to be too early.
58.	List where the rice is and when it opens for harvest.
59.	Treaty web site providing good information now.
60.	3- Something everyone will receive i.e.- mail
61.	Already use 1854.org for updates and pictures.
62.	2- Mailing, radio, posting at lakes.
63.	timing for harvest is trickier info to disseminate.
64.	State should stay out of it and so should bands.
65.	have a sign at land site and information most fair
66.	6
67.	For crop reports, water levels, changes in DNR management.
68.	TC- Bad idea unless taught by harvesters themselves.
69.	1- DNR assessment list of wild rice crops each year.
70.	web site would be most up to the minute.
71.	With emphasis on juveniles, especially Native Americans.
72.	The 1854 Authority does a good job of providing information for their area. Do something similar for the whole state.
73.	Mailed to the people who harvested the year before.
74.	Many ricers have no WEB access or skills (live "off" the grid)
75.	4- aerial reports county by county.
76.	knowing when and where is the challenge- don't ruin it with a web site
77.	mailing list-send info to last years ricers
78.	Like DNR web site, visit regular
79.	I don't believe it's worth the cost.
80.	have better information on when specific lakes will open rather than just signs at landings.
81.	I teach at an Indian School.
82.	Have a number to call at the Region Office to call for local openings.
83.	congress
84.	I do not think 'where to harvest' should be published.

Appendix M: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Resources to Deliver Information, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Resources to Deliver information to
85.	mail to me I'm very interested.
86.	Is there a PBS TV program about wild ricing? A lot of work to produce, but would have lasting benefits.
87.	post landings.
88.	Perhaps I'm protective/selfish- word of good ricing gets out and "crowds" move in and take over. Most local ricers "scout" sites and do their own homework.
89.	2- Possible wild rice interest group web site or blog.
90.	Then mail pamphlet in #2 to people who purchased license last year.
91.	Phone # district and regional office for information.
92.	Make available aerial surveys of lakes.
93.	Info released through county DNR agencies.
94.	I would like to parch myself. Don't know how.
95.	Somebody that knows all about ricing.
96.	Although I did not indicate anything in Q18, I think training and info in handbook would be good, especially for proper respect for the rice.
97.	3- mail
98.	To get other people to rice, DNR web site may be most effective?
99.	If you are interested in maintaining interest in harvesting wild rice, lower the fee.
100.	Very poorly accessible web site- ease of openings and status of ricing would be appropriate
101.	I rely on local residents information of conditions.
102.	Learn it from a friend.
103.	2- Check and post good lakes.
104.	Maybe, mail a buyer list of name and phone numbers.
105.	1-800 information hotline.
106.	News releases of training/classes would certainly increase interest in resource.
107.	Web site or news release.
108.	Supplied when you buy your license.
109.	6
110.	2- Email notices.
111.	Leave natures, wild rice alone. No high breed seed is wild rice.
112.	1- email.
113.	Need up to date info on alternative areas.
114.	waste of money
115.	Scheduling individual lake opening dates has been a farce.
116.	too variable to be in handbook
117.	Web site- Could offer current information.
118.	Radio, TV, and newspapers in interested areas.
119.	2- Some kind of festival or day somewhere.
120.	2- 1854 Authority web site.
121.	People who know how to harvest know.
122.	Part of the ricing experience is finding the rice and then getting (working to get) it- no help needed- then everyone is thrashing the lakes down.
123.	Pamphlet on wild rice, when purchasing harvest permit.
124.	Hot line
125.	Harvesting reports posted on DNR web site. When people are starting to harvest at various locals.
126.	1- 1854 Treaty Authority web site.

Appendix M: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Resources to Deliver Information, 2007.

	2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Resources to Deliver information to
127.	control, carp and water levels
128.	lake residents being informed and prosecuted from destroying rice
129.	Pamphlet listing buyers.
130.	News- mailed to my house like this survey.
131.	1- Place to call for rice conditions locally!
132.	Check on rice beds and see who did damage.
133.	Email
134.	6- Web would be one but 90% of harvesters don't have internet. Info should be posted on web
135.	1- 800#- provided on the license, providing current conditions.
136.	4- An honest reply from game warden than white herring reply.
137.	1- waste of money- is this where are high buck license fees go?
138.	In relation to open rice beds/hot line.
139.	Recorded messages if person calls DNR.
140.	DNR headquarters St. Paul or county seat.

**Appendix N: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments
about Wild Rice Management Priorities, 2007**

Appendix N: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Management Priorities, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Management Comments	
1.	Please note my comments [in Word file]
2.	1- Proper management- post lakes. The state should take back the lakes to regulate. Also, start issuing tickets for harvesting green rice. (1854 sucks at management.
3.	Open the season- stay out of the way- arrest people with green rice. The main problem is too high license fee- nobody controls the ricers that break stocks and will not stay out of green rice.
4.	Possibly more carry-in sites.
5.	Dear sir, I bought a license but I didn't harvest any rice due to it was too late and my age and health.
6.	1- Someone checking lake and posting lakes only opening them when the rice is ready.
7.	2- Access site availability, I.e. easements through private property.
8.	2- Access site availability- easements through private property.
9.	Numbers 1, 2, and 3 are equally important.
10.	Access to some good rice lakes has been closed off weather legally or illegally by landowner around them. This has hurt our ricing over years.
11.	I loved it, only went once, probably will never go again and thanks for the opportunity!
12.	6
13.	1- Management of "natural" wild rice.
14.	1- Save/restore big rice lake. Seeding- existing rice beds or historic extinct or likely looking new rice beds??
15.	Don't let the U of M change genetics of natural wild rice or paddy rice please.
16.	1- Do not permit planting of non-native species as requested by U of MN and others.
17.	Enforcement of regulations- There should be more of this for all fish, game, lumber, and rice.
18.	1. Protecting wild rice from Genetically Modified species!!!
19.	Keep people out of the rice beds.
20.	I don't see people breaking the law, only too many people beating green rice.
21.	Water level management- This is why we didn't rice on 06'
22.	Get state out of ruining rice by using water for Twin Cities.
23.	We need a beaver bounty. All of my favorite lakes are flooded too deep.
24.	Indian tribes close or restrict ricing on reservation waters until they have finished picking "state" (as they call it) waters. Stop this nonsense! All waters should be opened concurrently for everyone!!
25.	Clean up of lakes of Broad leaf weeds.
26.	Manage beds for wildlife, not rice harvest.
27.	Resource protection
28.	1- Big rice lake was ruined in an attempt to rid it of arrowhead. In managing rice lakes- utilize the knowledge of ricers familiar with history of a lake. Get input from old timers.
29.	Beaver control.
30.	7
31.	Get Native Americans more involved, they know and think ricers respect their word. You didn't ask if we sell or eat our rice, my wife and I eat about 25 pounds a year.
32.	2- The areas I rice do not need to be managed.
33.	3- License price is high for short season/ for non-commercial gathers.
34.	Let the rice stay native and unmutated.
35.	I'm concerned about genetically engineered wild rice entering the "wild" strain of rice.
36.	Thank you for 2nd chance.
37.	On management of invasive species.

Appendix N: Wild Rice Harvester Survey Respondent Comments about Wild Rice Management Priorities, 2007.

2004-2005 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Management Comments	
38.	1- Manage specific historical lakes as rice lakes 2 protection of wild rice. No motors, development, Ag., etc. adjacent. Knowledge and processors.
39.	No airboats
40.	1- Management should: actively oppose research, growth, and release, and sales of genetically modified rice in MN and USA.
41.	Whatever it would take to keep the rice beds. I think shoreline populations is going to be a problem.
42.	Degradation of lakes that hold rice beds due to development if leech lake, squaw, bowstring, etc. Note- You should have left room for additional comments somewhere. Thanks
43.	Get rid of the weeds- where there used to be rice, now full of weeds.
44.	Vermillion river access is impossible and most of the other rice areas when the water is low.
45.	Don't know enough about it to rank.
46.	4. Protect beds from Genetically Modified species!
47.	Big rice lake in St. Louis county is being choked out with cabbage reducing wild rice. Find a way to eliminate cabbage.
48.	I feel that keeping wild rice safe from genetic contamination via cultivated rice is very important.
49.	4- Conifers should be planted at the outlets of wild rice lakes to discourage use by beavers.
50.	Don't raise the fee any higher.
51.	Simply protect the environment/habitats. If you do that the rice is quite capable of the rest and you will not need to regulate water levels or seed, two activities more applicable to a domesticated rice paddy.
52.	1- Eliminate genetic modification and maintain ricing as traditional practice, or at least be absolutely sure GMO can't get into the wild strains.
53.	Rice harvesting to me is recreation. In the 1950's you could make a weeks regular pay in one day. Today it's a days work for a days pay.
54.	1- Legislature protection for wild stands from future genetically modified wild rice contamination.
55.	Above all, keeping genetically modified rice out of MN and away from natural rice.
56.	3- Classes, techniques, self-processing etc. (statewide! Not just metro.)
57.	7
58.	It seems there has been considerable difficulty maintaining water levels on Big Rice lake in St. Louis county. This greatly impacts my rice harvesting. Thank you.
59.	Support 1854 Authorities wild rice monitoring program.
60.	Do not improve access- it is not how many rice but how many get rice and not destroy the rice bed.
61.	It sounds like you want more people to do it, yet have the same restrictions- I'm unsure of why you need them.
62.	seeding? I've always heard wild rice grows naturally and can't be seeded or transplanted where it doesn't grow naturally - right?
63.	1. Insurance that genetically modified commercial rice does not affect wild rice.
64.	Would like to know where this survey will end up.
65.	2- Education to public/harvesters about environmental awareness and care of rice areas/wild areas/creatures/water quality.
66.	I have not had competition to rice, it would actually be nice to see more people try it out, they need to know how to do it.
67.	I didn't realize anything was done other than selling permits.
68.	Prevent removal of rice for docks, etc.
69.	In that order would help a lot (thanks) BUB
70.	Manage more lakes for rice, less for fishing and motorized recreation.
71.	Don't know the issues.
72.	Hi Ray

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73.	Keep the power boats and jet skis a long way from beds. They destroy the beds at times deliberately.
74.	water level is number 1 for wild rice, low water produces good rice and keep the ducks in MN.
75.	Leave open at 15 July educate dumb@##@ as to ripen.
76.	You can't rice if water is too low. Keep jet skis out and boats. Forget surveys- cost money to process, just lower licenses back down- best I think global warming will end wild ricing- beds will dry up.
77.	2- protection of rice beds and adjoining shorelands.
78.	Fees seem to be excessively high.
79.	license fee was doubled in 05 - why gouge the public for your lack of responsible spending. A 3 or 5-dollar increase would have been more responsible.
80.	I believe that as an enrolled member of a MN Chippewa tribe, I should not need a license anywhere in the state. Strongly.
81.	Gen. Modified research should not be allowed. Crowded lakes take much of the enjoyment of harvesting away- I will often not attempt to rice if others are on the beds.
82.	Enforcement- Keep four wheelers especially and snowmobiles from ruining wetlands. Get Native Americans input in proper harvesting techniques.
83.	1- Beaver control.
84.	No genetically modified rice anywhere.

2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Management Comments	
85.	Natural water depths or optimum growing depth excessively on lakes with minimal access.
86.	Support research at the U of M.
87.	Doesn't this say it all? Or U of California Berkeley? Why did a canoe full of rice harvested in Crooked and Lawrence weigh less than 50 lbs? Mostly empty hulls. no pollination, too hot, insects? Please contact @ 885-3177
88.	1- Maintenance and improvement/reclamation of habitat. Thanks so much! Glad to see your interest. My partner and I are very "into" ricing and want to see adequate protection of the resources to ensure its longevity.
89.	When ricing we seed too.
90.	Why don't you make the fee more reasonable for those people who do not sell their rice. Think this over Mr. Norrgard and give me a call or email. Thanks Richard Thorpe 952-925-9404 or r3thorpe@yahoo.com
91.	I believe the cost of a license has gotten out of hand.
92.	Are you publishing your results? I'd be interested in learning how many rice for pleasure/how many rice to
93.	I would say let nature control. Attempts to regulate water levels have only greatly increased weed growth.
94.	seems to me it works the way it is. This survey is a good idea.
95.	Are current zoning regulations. Destroying our rice beds/management-should include education and
96.	Water level management has ruined rice crop on big rice.
97.	Have noticed more littering at some accesses- flowage lake especially.
98.	Keep unwanted vegetation out of the rice lakes- let mother nature determine the water levels.
99.	We process our own, so lists of buyers and processors are of no value.
100.	7
101.	7. Lower cost of license I'm more likely to buy one if it looks like a bad year. It also looks like nothing is being done to manage wild rice. Need more info management is actually occurring.
102.	Eliminate 'availability of information' Individual lake openings results in excessive pressure and damage. The only management I have seen successful has been beaver dam removal. [more comments in word file]
103.	Regulate better. DNR has done a good job seeding new lakes and controlling water levels.

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2006 Wild Rice License Holders - Other Management Comments	
104.	If the water levels are ok and the weather ok, the rice is good.
105.	1. Closing time and cost of license. See Word File for additional comments
106.	post lakes until ripe - have a Sept 1st start date.
107.	Access site improvement-Goose lake.
108.	Thank you for doing survey. I am very happy to hear that the DNR is actively looking into how to best manage rice and harvest.
109.	licenses are too expensive. Especially when rice has been knocked down three weeks early by idiots.
110.	Right now the government is managing Iraq.
111.	Minimal management- the more you mess with it, the more unnatural it becomes. Nature is doing a fine
112.	not sure
113.	3. Reseeding extirpated stands.
114.	See comment above.
115.	Stop genetic contamination. Keep it Wild!! Thank you.
116.	carp control
117.	5
118.	Spend this money on knowing (when to open) the lakes that are ripe and keeping the ones that are green closed until ready.
119.	Lower Resident License cost. Raise Non-resident License cost. Safeguard from paddy rice and genetically modified variants (from overtaking Native wild rice beds)
120.	maintaining lakes and limiting development and loss of critical habitats.
121.	People rice to early and wreck the rice stalks. Lakes need to be checked and posted until they are ready to harvest.
122.	I prefer that you reduce the fee and do nothing. Enforce motorboat regulations and unauthorized access - especially 4-wheelers. Don't mess with genomes and natural processes.
123.	beaver control. Additional comments in word file.
124.	1- No genetically modified "wild" rice anywhere.
125.	developing better regulations as above and reduce license price.
126.	1. Monitoring and policing source point polluters in major ricing area.
127.	C.O.s should enforce rules. Overall, I think things are working as well as can be expected. Hours and opening date are fine. Rice beds need some to recover each day so sunset would not work.
128.	Have a Sept 1 opening date or post lakes until rice is ripe.
129.	\$25.00 is to much to charge if you are not selling the rice.
130.	C.O.s need to be versed on regulations esp. the exemption of flotation devices.
131.	we must find a way to limit recreation development on our rice lakes. There's too much unrestricted motor use on these lakes motor size should be limited. No jet skis.
132.	1- No genetically modified rice.
133.	Carp problems magically corrected.
134.	1. Obtaining public access to rice lakes currently surrounded by private property.
135.	DO NOT LET LAKE RESIDENTS DESTROY RICE
136.	if state sells one a license, they must manage and train their people to do so. Otherwise they are left wide open for lawsuits. Train your C.O.s to know and deal with rice or stay out of it. Let ricers start the season. [See Word file for more]
137.	[response to seeding] NO
138.	7
139.	cont from #11d. When I asked Voyager's Park mgmt why they took away our rights to harvest rice in the park they said "to save for ducks/geese. This is asinine in my idea! I can be reached at 218-757-3130. Gary Germain, Intl Falls, MN

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140.	3- CO should know the laws before sent out in field.
141.	It would be nice to know that all of the \$ is used for rice management.
142.	Weed choked lake drainage are a problem, rice will not germinate if the water is too deep.
143.	All are important.
144.	Leave it alone, it will manage it self.
145.	1- To stop trying to change the genetics of wild rice for patty growers. It's time to focus on the natural beds before they are gone!! To seed with the seed that comes each lake only.
146.	More important than all the priorities you suggest is the management of Wild rice fro waterfowl first!! People's harvest of rice should be secondary priority.
147.	Restore Big Rice lake south of Tower in St Louis county.
148.	Do not allow altering genetics of real wild rice!
149.	2- DNR should leave the rice beds alone!
150.	Let mother nature manage it- let me keep my money.
151.	I think a license to harvest wild rice should cost less for those people not interested in harvesting to sell.
152.	Control lily pad and other aquatic weeds that take over a rice bed.
153.	Water level on big rice lake so badly managed it is criminal. (St. Louis county)
154.	2- DNR scout to monitor and manage big beds like- Big Sandy, Mallard, Vermillion, Dean, etc.
155.	Game Wardens should KNOW the rules and regulations.
156.	I hunt, fish, and rice, to me ricers seem to be the most environmentally responsible self-regulators.
157.	Funds should be used to hire Ojibwa people who would help protect the rice for the future!
158.	Ray- keep up the good work!
159.	2- Wild rice habitat security from degradation (improper development/exotic plants, etc.)
160.	1- To keep it wild, and not mess with genetics.
161.	We strongly oppose any release of genetically altered native rice.
162.	Stop genetically engineered rice out of the wild. There is plenty of rice to go around. Little management is
163.	We need to expand the rules of harvesting rice so it will exceed the minimum wages.
164.	I would like notification on the up coming sessions of the wild rice advisory circle.
165.	2- Close water bodies until determined to be ripe.
166.	5- Open state parks to harvest/Naturalist programs.
167.	Water level mgmt: yea sure, God works for you now? Other: educate public non ricers about ripe rice and recreational canoers. Any MN Guard or Reserve in country Bosnia, Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq should get free license for some time upon return. Iraq - lifetime free
168.	1. Blocking genetic modification.
169.	Additional comments in Word file
170.	All rice lake are different and should be treated as such. I think seeding would destroy the unique qualities of each lake.
171.	Don't open lakes (rivers) until rice is ripe. This will provide rice for future years/ generations as well. Open
172.	I would say if pamphlet was available- should explain a info on how to harvest, without damaging rice, where, how, when.
173.	Whatever allows the continuations of wild rice growth.
174.	4- Conifers should be planted at the outlets of wild rice lakes to discourage use by beavers.
175.	Hay creek and crooked lake are in need of repair.

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176.	Keep wild rice, wild forever.
177.	Keeping motorboat out and away from rice beds.
178.	River rice is very important with water level.
179.	Swamp lake near Glen MN at one time was a great lake for wild rice. Now it has none.
180.	listings of available public waters
181.	More real time info between tribe and state. How much did this cost us.
182.	See attached #1 question 20.
183.	Water level management very important, mainly beaver control, dams (man made also).
184.	6- Enforce boat, jet skis, landowners who destroy water vegetation, wakes zone. Shorelines, stop genetic
185.	3- Get rid of the small lily pads that are killing of rice.
186.	Let wild rice be wild, leave it alone!
187.	Keep patty rice out of area.
188.	Harvesting hours need to be enforced. Very little management needed- reduce license fees, the rice will take care of itself.
189.	Over the years we have lost many rice beds North of Virginia in a relatively small area. Why?
190.	It grows on its own and you don't do shit!
191.	No preference.
192.	I see no effective management- only conservation officers who nothing about wild rice, for those of us who love the outdoors and who have hands on knowledge- please leave this one activity alone.
193.	Making postings where you can see them. Posting updated info. ASAP.
194.	The "fee master" governor Pawlenty has raised the price of the license way out of line for a small harvester and for a non-resident.
195.	Protection of habitat from other users of lakes and rivers i.e. wakes, property owners pulling it up etc.
196.	The lily pads seem to be chocking out a lot of the rice over the years because of no muskrats to eat them.
197.	Protection of native strains from UMN modified crop.
198.	Thank you, this was the first year I harvested rice. I have a cabin on upper rice lake in Clearwater county. I wanted my 8-year twins to try it. We had a great time and they are looking forward to next year. C.O. Spauldung was a great help also. Thank
199.	4- I am strongly opposed to the genetic testing being done by the University of MN.
200.	6
201.	With the few remaining ricers I don't feel state involvement is needed anymore.
202.	The rest is fine.
203.	Landings need improvement.
204.	Big rice- water level management- disaster!! Ruined the rice crop.
205.	None of the above.
206.	Would not support using genetically improved seed.
207.	Banning GMO rice is very important to me and to tribes.
208.	Consider opening date by counties when rice is ripe.
209.	Please feel free to call me at 218-697-2691. Jim Drake
210.	I don't know enough about all of the aspects of ricing to really give my opinion.
211.	To the best of my knowledge there is no management charge for the license- that's it.
212.	\$25 is too much for a license.
213.	Habitat protection.
214.	1- Jerry Hove on Big Rice north of Virginia should manage that lake.

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215.	None
216.	Keep the paddy rice and its genetic modifications out of our state. Please!
217.	Making ricing license price more reasonable. It was doubled in one year, while the fishing license stayed much the same. Also, educating people about the difference between paddy rice and wild harvested.
218.	Manage lakeshore properties that destroy habitat by chemicals, septic, mowing.
219.	4- leave it alone.
220.	Some of our older rice lakes have more now, due to beaver dams.
221.	There is a lot of rice in MN. I think the DNR does a good job protecting it.
222.	1- competing exotics.
223.	It always reseeds, usually every other year is good.
224.	7- License cost is way out of hand.
225.	Keeping genetic modified rice away from traditional wild rice.
226.	I believe that rice paddies like Mallard; Dean should be (posted closed) by the DNR until they are ripe enough to pick. Pickers need to understand what green rice is and stay out of it.
227.	2- Rice has to be managed for wildlife, good harvester, clean environment.
228.	You have fishing data on MN lakes why not ricing data.
229.	No need for endorsement, very few harvest and there is no money in it.
230.	Part of the mystique is the unpredictability of the crop and mucky landings. It's more gathering than harvesting. Don't change that.
231.	Thank you for the survey.
232.	Higher prices paid for green rice, average price for 30 years is \$1.00 per pound of green rice.
233.	I know one small lake here in turtle lake twp, Beltrami county that used to be full of rice/ducks- now nothing because of beaver dams.
234.	Can DNR management, see #13. Native Americans do a good job of managing their lakes, let them run the whole show. PS I am a purebred Norwegian.
235.	1- Open the beds when they are ripe- designating an opening date but stating that green rice should not be picked amounts to an abdication of responsibility of the DNR.
236.	1- Preventing the cross contamination of GMO rice with natural wild rice.
237.	Monitor who ever is messing with water levels.
238.	It's been researched to death. Keep the test tube people away!! We seed it. Hard to beat Sandy and Federal camp ground (access site).
239.	DNR officers taking away boats and rice from tribal members, when rice was harvested within res. Boundaries.
240.	1- Maintaining and improving rice lakes/ivers. 2- Getting rice back in historic rice areas.
241.	Being able to harvest on tribal lakes, since natives can harvest on other lakes.
242.	New access needed for moose lake St. Louis county.
243.	Enforce ricing green rice!
244.	Access site- listing the sites for public access vs. private property.
245.	If there's low water, there's no way to get it. The water has to be high, but not over high, so it will be easy to pole.
246.	1- Keep university and research from tinkering with wild rice genetics and DNA. Do not allow hybridizing or fertilization of non-local ecotype seed. Do not allow paddy rice to be grown w/in 200 mile of native wild rice beds.
247.	Thanks for your guys effort! No GMO rice please.
248.	14/20 Does history facts support early ripping season on drought years.
249.	Establishment and enforce throughout plans/designations that prohibit development. Please don't make
250.	1854 Authority web site is an excellent resource, should have contributions from DNR.

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251.	Most wardens don't know anything about rice, if it is ripe or green.
252.	Place to call locally for info.
253.	No hybridizing, no mines dumping tailings into rice areas, motorboats speeding/creating wakes in rice beds.
254.	Lobby against genetically modified rice.
255.	800# providing current rice conditions- would help to prevent destroying of unripened rice.
256.	It was some what difficult to find specific info on ricing, such as length of rice stalks allowed, on your web site it was just by luck that I clicked on a photo that opened the ricing listings. Search was no help.
257.	2- Having enough harvesters is the most important management.
258.	Only time you see a game warden is at this time more oppressing than wages.
259.	1- Habitat protection/ATV management and enforcement.
260.	See #19
261.	1- Reduce "management"- reduced license fees.
262.	Harvest for recreational purposes and personal use, processor for small amount would be helpful.
263.	Labeling laws, don't allow genetic engineered rice to exchange into wild.
264.	All ok.
265.	My wife and I find a financial hard ship in the cost of licenses. Ricers are not the only beneficiary of rice beds, so are duck-hunters and rat trappers. Spread the financial burden.
266.	Wild rice harvesters are mainly older people. Young people would rather buy processed rice instead of enduring repeatious, hot, dirty, wormy labor.
267.	Restorations of old beds.
268.	2.5- Folks willing to help persons wanting to learn more- "hands on stuff".
269.	1- Harvesting the rice when it is ripe. To many people pounding of green rice.
270.	1- Habitat preservation (stop residential/commercial development on wild rice waters). Example: Becker county Teacraker lake- developer has made a applied for zoning etc.
271.	Let nature take its course. You guys leave our lakes alone.
272.	Prairie lake water level is not regulated well, the rice bed is being destroyed.
273.	Fifty years of ricing and you ask questions like this- get with the program!!! Another license fee.
274.	1- More work clearing the lakes of carp.
275.	I think much of the license revenue may get wasted? Where does the money go? Specifically I don't know.
276.	Post lake when to open.
277.	Awareness of rice quality, quantity.
278.	Since April 1995 when lake was lowered 'big rice lake' has gone from a good to excellent wild rice,
279.	Thanks for the survey. I do think the high license cost is prohibitive for many people. It has gone up a lot since Pawlenty and this is wrong.
280.	1- Habitat preservation (i.e. stop residential/commercial development on wild rice waters) Everything is
281.	If to seed, you should seed with 5 to 10 different kinds of rice, the best rice for that lake will grow if any will. The biggest rice is not always the best tasting or the best growing.
282.	Don't waste money, wild rice is very fickle, you can't change that. Moose pond D.U. project really helped.
283.	1- Lower the license fee.
284.	Not site access- but some spot to unload and prep/rest.
285.	What management!
286.	I haven't seen the DNR do any management except take the inflated license fee! The best info is 1854 Authority.
287.	3- Support for the annual monitoring that the 1854 Authority conducts of rice lakes and rice production.

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288.	1- Restricting use of name "wild rice" on commercially planted/harvested beds and prevention of contamination of the wild rice by engineered commercial rice.
289.	Not to be rude, but most pickers know more about harvesting rice than enforcement officials- for the most part oversee do not over enforce!
290.	Seeding- no stop interfering with nature. In nature the rice not hybridizing the natural grain, outlaw paddy rice in MN.
291.	I have been ricing for over 27 years. Leech lake enrolled member better enforcement of reg. To prevent early harvest by people who don't know what their doing. Better posting of rice beds better management of lake levels, where rice is harvested.
292.	3- Lakes seeded in the past on private lakes are useless if the private landowners refuse access to the water!
293.	19- web site: Have been using 1854 Authority web site for ripening info. Generally satisfied with site/info. Suggest you coordinating with 1854 rather than duplicate.
294.	Get serious, money goes for B.S. projects not related to wild ricing. I you guys keep raising the cost of license. No one but the big harvesters will go ricing. Look at your increase for the last 5 years. Get serious.
295.	Develop small lakes for rice and waterfowl.
296.	Most people would buy a license as it is necessary to sell your green rice.
297.	We pay way too much for licenses.
298.	7- Prevention of contamination from GMO's.
299.	Youth involvement- 3 people per boat if under 12 year old is observing.
300.	Remedy in wader species, a primary issue.
301.	Kill the purple weeds.
302.	water level mgmt and access improvements - I ranked them low as I'd like to see things kept as traditional as possible.
303.	don't have an opinion
304.	4- Conifers should be planted at the outlets of wild rice lakes to discourage use by beavers.
305.	3- Keeping the paddy rice growers from using wild rice designation.
306.	Not necessary.
307.	Too many people try to rush things and harvest green rice with the July opening date.
308.	Happy the way it is.
309.	2= training, classes.
310.	1- Fighting global warming: I think the biggest threat to all of our non-human relatives is climate change, including the rice. I support water level management only if it is natural, i.e. not creating more dams. We need less dams.
311.	1- No GMO wild rice allowed in the state of MN.
312.	Let the general public know high breed seed all ripen same time, insecticides used, fertilizer used, and harvested with a combine. A domestic grain nothing wild about it.
313.	Committee to work with law enforcement.
314.	I have only attempted to harvest rice on one occasion, for one day, and therefore do not feel qualified to respond to this survey. I would like to harvest in the future; therefore I will answer what I feel I can.