



Shifting Seasons: Tribal Communities Fostering Resilience to Climate Change

Lisa Bosman, ABD
Dr. William Van Lopik
August 5, 2012

Overview

- Historical Context of Menominee
- Establishment of CMN and SDI
- Tribal Diversity
- Situational Awareness
- CMN Research and academic efforts



Menominee Autochthony

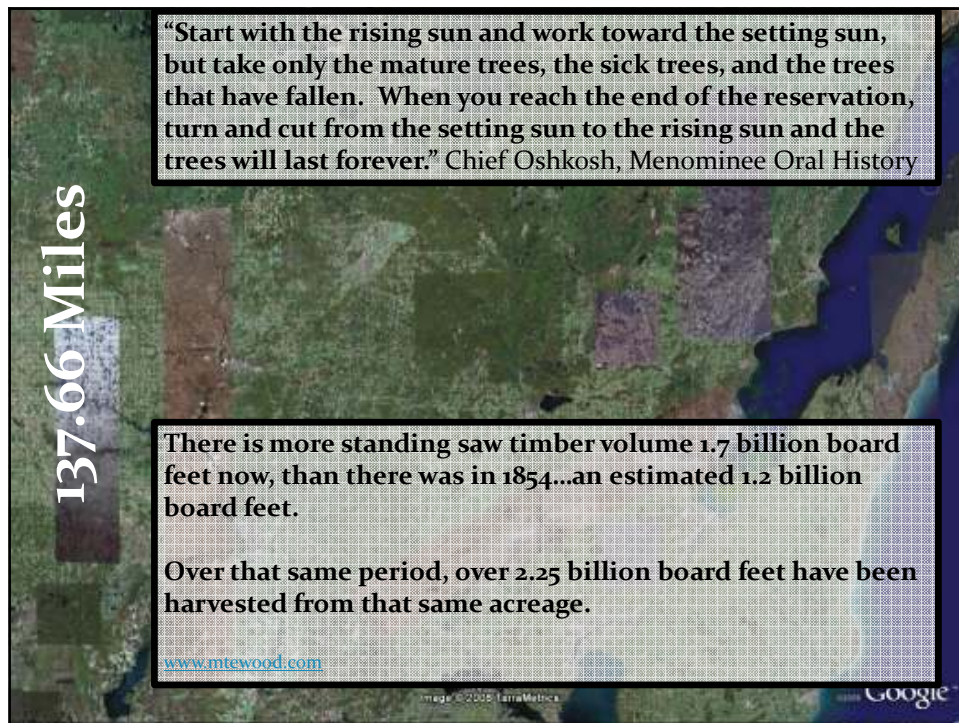
- Origin Story – Mouth of the Wolf River
- People of the Wild Rice
- Menominee Termination Act of 1954
 - Menominee County
- December 22, 1973 – Restoration Act



The Menominee Nation

- Located in Northeast Wisconsin
- 358 miles² or 235,000 acres
- pop 4,562
- 128 lakes and 4 rivers, (Wolf River)





Sustainable Forestry



- ❖ 235,000 acres
- ❖ > 90% forested
- ❖ Sustained Yield
- ❖ Continuous Forest Inventory (888)
- ❖ Forest Management Plan & Economics
- ❖ Intelligent Tinkering

“It is said of the Menominee that the sacredness of the land is their very body, the values of the culture are their very soul, the water is their very blood. It is obvious, then, that the forest and its living creatures be viewed as food for their existence.”

–Marshal Pecore, MTE Forest Manager, Journal of Forestry, July 1992

Guiding Values

*-S. Verna Fowler, Ph.D.
President
College of Menominee Nation*



- “Sustainability” is a popular term today, with many organizations speaking of “green” studies and sustainability programs. We celebrate the attention being given to this critically important topic, but for CMN, the idea of sustainable development is deeper and more broadly focused than in many other institutions. For our College and the Menominee People who chartered CMN, sustainable development has roots in the moral code, governance structure and sustainable forestry practices that evolved within the tribe over many centuries.
- Since its beginning in 1993, the College of Menominee Nation has built its curriculum around these concepts and values. At the core are respect for the land, water and air; partnership with other creatures of earth, and a way of living and working that achieves a balance between use and replenishment of all resources.
- The commitment extends beyond the natural world to all human endeavors - science, technology, business, human services, health, education and the arts and humanities. You will find this commitment demonstrated across the CMN curriculum and providing the nucleus of many of the College’s programs.

Institutional Commitments

- American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment



- Clinton Global Initiative University



CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE UNIVERSITY



Why make these commitments?

- Situational Awareness
- Self-reliance
- Intergenerational Equity
- Social Equity
- Environmental Justice
- Economic Development
- Because our tribal CULTURES tell us to



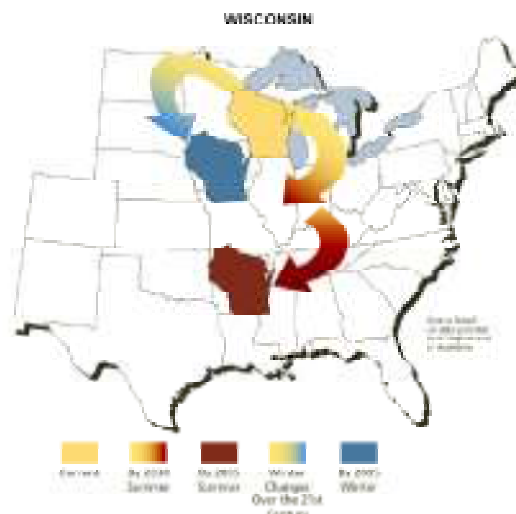
Tribal Climate Change Issues



Photo Courtesy of Oregon Department of Forestry

- Invasive Species
 - Emerald Ash Borer
 - Mountain Pine Beetle
 - Purple Loose Strife
- Drought
 - Water rights / In stream-flow
 - Tribal croplands
 - Tribal forestlands
- Animal Behavior
 - Black Bears
 - Salmon spawning

State Shift Phenomenon



Potential Impacts of Global Warming On the Menominee Forest The Current Situation

- With global temperatures rising it is increasingly imperative to understand the potential implications this may have on the Menominee people and their forest.
- It is anticipated that climate change will have some effects on those tree species that have evolved to survive current climate conditions

USDA Forest Service Climate Change Atlas

<http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/atlas/>



CMN has an excellent working relationship with the U.S. Forest Service. Their research publications are integrated into the classroom assignments.



