

**LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS
OF ODAWA INDIANS
NATURAL RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

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**LTBB BLACK LAKE SYSTEM STURGEON
HARVEST POLICY**

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) in cooperative effort with the other 1836 Treaty Tribes and the State of Michigan to rehabilitate the sturgeon in the Black Lake System have determined there are a sufficient number of adult sturgeon available for harvest. This policy will detail the manner in which the harvest will be managed. A limited number of Black Lake System Sturgeon harvest permits will be issued to LTBB members on an annual basis.

1. Eligibility.
 - a) Must be a Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Member.
 - b) Must have valid LTBB Inland Hunting and Fishing License.
 - c) Must completely fill out a LTBB Black Lake System Sturgeon harvest application and submit no later than the end of the Application period.
 - d) Must not be currently incarcerated.
 - e) Successful Black Lake System Sturgeon Harvest Permit Applicants must wait three (3) years before they can re-apply. Tribal members who are drawn and offered an opportunity but decline to accept a permit will lose all accumulated “chances,” see section 4. below.

2. Permit Applications.
 - a) Application Period: Nov. 1- January 1.
 - b) All applications must be sent to the LTBB Natural Resource Department and either received or postmarked by Jan. 1st.
 - c) Tribal members may only apply once per hunting year.
 - d) Each applicant shall be required to submit a \$5.00 non-refundable fee with their application. Elders shall have the fee waived.

3. Permits.
 - a) LTBB will issue a predetermined number of Black Lake System Sturgeon harvest permits authorized for that year.
 - b) Successful applicants will be determined via live lottery conducted at the 1st regularly scheduled LTBB Natural Resource Commission meeting in January (second Wednesday of the month). Successful applicants will be

contacted the next business day. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure their contact information is up to date. The NRD will make best efforts to contact all successful applicants. If the NRD is unable to reach the applicant, the NRD will move on to the next person on the list and the skipped over applicant will lose all accumulated “chances” for the weighted lottery system.

- c) Successful applicants will be required to have their inland hunting and fishing license and their tribally issued permit/harvest tag in their possession while fishing.
- d) Tribal members shall not be eligible for more than one LTBB Black Lake System Sturgeon harvest every three years. Tribal members will only be issued 1 permit if your name is drawn more than once in a year.

4. Weighted Lottery System.

- a) LTBB Black Lake System Sturgeon harvest permits will be selected using a weighted lottery system. In this system, fishers will receive one “chance” each year they apply for a Sturgeon harvest permit and are **unsuccessful** in the drawing, starting with 2010 applications. For example, a person who applies for the 2012 drawing and who also applied in 2010 and 2011 will have 3 chances to be drawn in 2012 (one chance for the current application, plus two chances from previous unsuccessful applications).
- b) The chance standing of any applicant who is successful in the drawing of a Black Lake System Sturgeon harvest permit will return to zero chances after the drawing.
- c) Tribal members who are drawn and offered an opportunity but decline to accept a permit will lose all accumulated chances. Their chance standing will return to zero.
- d) Fishers who fail to apply or are ineligible to apply for an hunting and fishing license for three consecutive years will lose their accumulated chances.
- e) Fishers have the option to purchase a “Chance Only” when applying. “Chance Only” applications are excluded from the license drawing for the current year but will be counted as an additional chance for future years. Only one chance may be awarded per year.