



Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Natural Resource Department
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Nmé Celebration 2023 – Press Release

Saturday September 16th 2023

Wolverine Village Park, 1 to 3pm

Aanii,

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians' Fisheries Enhancement Facility is hosting a Nmé Celebration at the Wolverine Village Park on September 16th 2023 at 1:00pm. This is a wonderful family event, where we can celebrate the return of this magnificent fish to the Sturgeon River. Lunch and refreshments are provided. Attendees will get a chance to release about 200 to 300 fish and send them off with kind wishes as the fish begin their long journey.

The LTBB FEF has been working in cooperation with Michigan State University and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to restore the Lake Sturgeon population in Burt Lake. Since 2013, the LTBB FEF has released 5,400 fingerling sturgeon into the Burt Lake system. Of the 5,400 fingerlings, 4,027 have been stocked into the Sturgeon River, at or upstream of Wolverine in hopes to improve their chances of imprinting and returning to the river when they mature.

In 2023, staff are hopeful to release ~2,000 fingerlings into the Sturgeon River. All hopes are that these fingerlings will reside in the river for the next 2-3 years, before “flushing” out into Burt Lake. These Lake Sturgeon are very long lived, and may possibly live more than 100 years. This long lifecycle also means that sturgeon do not mature until they are 15-20 years of age. In turn, staff expect the fish being released this year to possibly return to the river in 2038-2043!

Google Maps Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/AJKBdeZgWWgqwCQM7>

GPS Location: (45.272743, -84.601348)

We hope to see you there!

Chi Miigwetch,

Kris Dey
Hatchery Manager
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Gwekwaadziwin – Debwewin – Dbaadendiziwin – Zaagidwin – Nbwaakaawin - Aakwa'ode'ewin - Mnaadendimowin
Honesty – Truth – Humility – Love – Wisdom – Courage – Respect



Figure 1: Wolverine Township park, river access.

Gwekwaadziwin – Debwewin – Dbaadendiziwin – Zaagidwin – Nbwaakaawin - Aakwa'ode'ewin - Mnaadendimowin
Honesty – Truth – Humility – Love – Wisdom – Courage – Respect



Figure 2: Senior Research Technician Mike Diefenbach, holding a large female on the Black River June 2022.

Gwekwaadziwin – Debwewin – Dbaadendiziwin – Zaagidwin – Nbwaakaawin - Aakwa'ode'ewin - Mnaadendimowin
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