

### NOW: STRENGTHS:

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- Improved Lakes & Rivers  
2005/2023 increased from 52-59% on-reservation.  
2005/2023 increased from 46-71% off-reservation.
- Indigenous knowledge, Bio-Char; combined fires charred wood & compost.
- Forest Management – Community Education.
- Sustainable.
- Wildlife Management.
- Collaboration between education, community, CMN, historic preservation.
- Water Quality – setting our own standards.
- Return of Buffalo – Meni.
- Gardens/Agriculture.
- Seed Reservation – Culture.
- Inter-connected systems – wildlife/forest systems thinkers (humble beings).
- Job security – safety training.
- Food sources.
- Plant/medicinal sources.
- DFAS – wild rice thrashers, gardening, and maple syrup.

### NOW: WEAKNESSES:

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- Disrespectful of Mother Earth – garbage, wasteful (take back straps, leave the rest of the deer).
- Destruction – not following the teachings.
- Invasive – more teaching.
- Ordinance Revision – lead, CWD.
- Lacking integration and enforcement of management by managers. Natural resource division that includes forestry, MTE, natural resources, conservation, etc. The higher structure needed didn't work out, but more is needed to lead in this area.
- Change in mindset.
- MTE/MTL not seeing eye to eye.
- Limited – acreage (only so many trees) ex: ash bore
- All equipment is run by hydraulic fluid, can we use a more biodegradable fuel.

### FUTURE: OPPORTUNITIES:

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- Building alliances with outside entities.
- Eco-tourism, in a controlled fashion, can be used for our own benefit.
- Emergency plans in place for climate-related disasters.
- Look at developing low-value forest areas for development.
- Natural knowledge – intellectual property.
- More communication & education on the responsible harvest.
- Research on wildlife that is unhealthy – why?
- Greenhouses – genetically (invasive/specific species).
- Wolf population – restoring our ecosystems.
- Grow our own white pine.
- CMN – climate control/seedlings sustainable development.
- Natural Resource Strategic Plan (have but not used).
- Land development and management need for housing.
- Different stages of growth to save wild rice.
- Maple Syrup.
- Gardens.
- The shift that we are making towards renewable energies.
- Field Catalogue - Harvesting our Medicinal Plants.
- Put a bounty on invasive species – Garlic mustard is edible and can be used. People are more incentivized to help with invasive species. Can be revenue and food for the Tribe.
- Renewable energy.
- Forrest education – Developing a curriculum for High School students and younger. Sustainability education isn't offered until college level, but we need to start sooner. We want to start the mindset earlier. Not only the forest management plan but educating our young ones about the forest at all levels.
- Citizen Wardens – We are overregulating certain things, underregulating certain things, we are short staffed, and it plays into our issues, overharvesting, garbage, overhunting, etc.

## FUTURE: THREATS:

### ENVIRONMENTAL

- Water rights – climate migration. Do we have lawyers in place to help us through that?
- Invasive species.
- CWD.
- Hydraulic fluids.
- Invasive species elimination.
- Climate change & development.
- Freshwater rights – legal help.
- Wolf River Corridor – Sustained Yield, Forest Management, Invasive Species, protecting the corridor but it limits us when it comes to addressing the invasive species in the area, Invasive species cannot be addressed in protected lands. No one has access to go into the areas.
- Carbon Credits.
- Boundaries - Garbage dumped on our reservation from off-reservation people.
- Natural Disasters – Have a plan for situations that may occur.
- Perspective – Using the term “resource” when referring to our plant and animal relatives, they are not resources they are our relatives. Referring to them as resources make them inanimate. We need to watch the terminology we use and use proper terminology that reflects the culture.

### ENVIRONMENTAL (CONTINUED)

- Climate change.
- Data collection, controlling, managing, policies – Data Sovereignty.
- Overharvesting – People aren't necessarily sharing with others like we used to do traditionally, people have a personal responsibility to not take more than they need and an educational component on this will help with overharvesting.
- Poaching.

### TRIBAL POLICY

- Legal issues.
- MTE/MTL not seeing eye to eye.
- Outside – interested in our resources.
- Homelessness – People have been staying by the lakes, which produces a lot of human waste.
- Limited resources and growing populations.
- Overharvesting our medicines.
- Regulations – While establishing our boundaries and programs.
- Lack of wardens and staff.
- Our wardens are coming from the police department to the natural resources area without the education that they need in natural resources. They come in with a policing mindset rather than a cultural mindset.

## PASSIONS

- Go Green (2) – implementing lifestyle change – educating the community.
- Food sovereignty – the ability to purchase & produce healthy foods, both internally and inter-tribally
- Resource Protection – assure our management is meeting the intent of our vision and goals.
- Resource management – Manage resources sustainably for an increasing tribal population.
- Updating codes – Solid waste, junk vehicles, junk mobile homes, and illegal dumping.
- Making our reservation a clean place; leaving an area better than how you found it.
- Protect our lands & Natural Resources.
- Changing terms and words that reflect our beliefs.
- Land use plan.
- Education.
- Values of Resources.
- Remember who we are.

## PRIORITIES

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- Land Use Plan – Revise and redo the plan – needs to meet our current/future management & development needs
- IRMP – Integrated Resource Management Plan – Multi-disciplinary Departments/Entities
- Effective Regulation Development
- Collaboration – key departments and entities
- Communication with community/stakeholders
- Protect our lands & Natural Resources.
- Clean ups and community.
- Ecotourism.
- Land use Plan.
- Caring for what we have.
- Education.
- Connection to the land.
- Climate Change.
- Treat everything as a relative.