

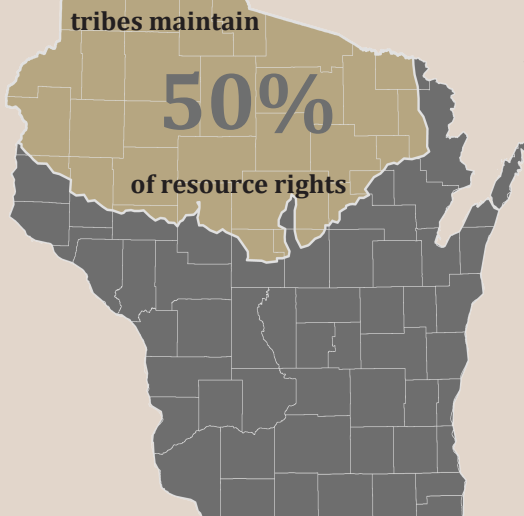
Ojibwe Opposition to the Wolf Hunt: Proposal for Buffer Zones as a Geographic Compromise

In 2012, Wisconsin established its first state harvest on wolves. Many non-tribal residents are in favor, especially those who have been victim to depredations (wolf attacks on domestic animals). Concerns are legitimate, however, Wisconsin shares these wolves...

83%

of Wisconsin wolves inhabit Ojibwe reservations or land ceded by the tribes

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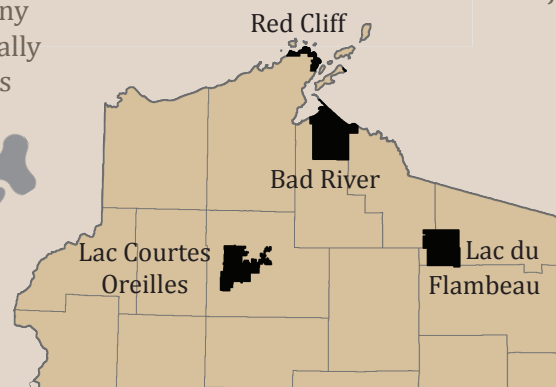


The Ojibwe will not hunt the wolf on part of culturally situated beliefs and ecological understandings. The wolf is known as

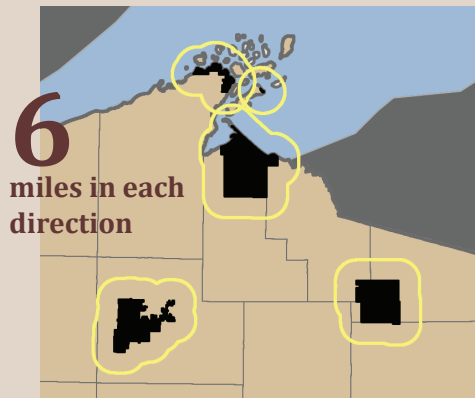
Ma'iingan
- Ojibwe for brother.

The premise is to promote the wolf population in areas that it will be ecologically sustainable, culturally significant, and socially tolerable, while curtailing it where it will be problematic- based on *location*.

Unfortunately, Reservation wolves do not pay any mind to these politically created boundaries



Four Ojibwe reservations are recognized as "zero-quota." Here, wolves are protected.

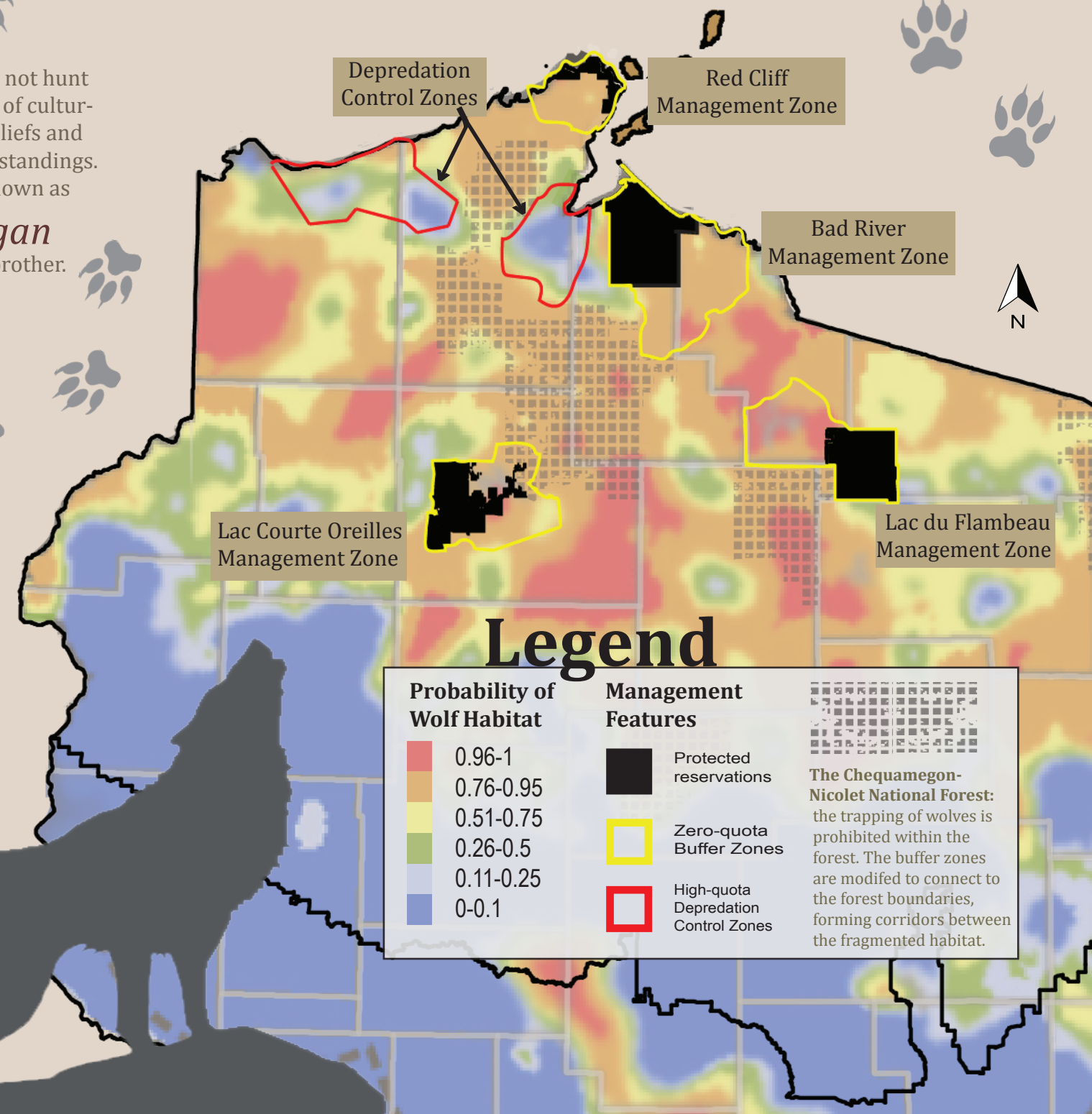


The tribes have suggested that buffer areas around the reservation are established to extend the wolves' protection.

The implementation of the wolf hunt has instigated the first break from cooperative management in decades. The following buffer zone model seeks to mediate the opposing concerns of culture, politics, and science by considering the interests of all stakeholders.

The Compromise →

This proposal was created by modifying buffer boundaries to encompass suitable wolf habitat. The model was created in 2009 by David Mladenoff, UW-Madison Professor of Forest Ecology. He suggests that the greatest predictors of wolf habitat are lack of agriculture and low road densities. Control of the wolf population in areas that do not offer suitable habitat (largely on part of these human developments) should lessen the possibility for conflict.



Probability of Wolf Habitat	Management Features
0.96-1 (Red)	Protected reservations (Black square)
0.76-0.95 (Orange)	Zero-quota Buffer Zones (Yellow outline)
0.51-0.75 (Yellow)	High-quota Depredation Control Zones (Red outline)
0.26-0.5 (Green)	
0.11-0.25 (Light Blue)	
0-0.1 (Dark Blue)	

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest: the trapping of wolves is prohibited within the forest. The buffer zones are modified to connect to the forest boundaries, forming corridors between the fragmented habitat.