

# Chippewa NF Native Woody Plant Fruit & Cone Gathering

## 2007 Accomplishments

This project is the second partnership project initiated to increase the Chippewa's seed bank of woody species at the J.W. Toumey Nursery.

Twelve thousand dollars was obligated in a contract with the Leech Lake Band of the Ojibwe in 2007. Individual tribal members will be paid for the fruit or cones they gather. The intent was to have tribal members gather the fruit from designated native woody plant species.

Another thousand dollars was planned for purchase and shipping of "mash" from a local winery. Wild fruit species used to produce wine locally are gathered by tribal members and sold to this winery. In an effort to not compete with the winery for fruit they need to produce their product, only fruit species they don't use are purchased directly from tribal members by the Forest. Fruit species sold to the winery by tribal gatherers are resold by the winery to the Forest at a minimal cost after juice is extracted. This way tribal members benefit, the winery benefits and the Forest benefits. All fruit is gathered locally whether purchased directly from tribal members or from the winery.

Fruit purchased as winery "mash" in 2007:

189 pounds of black chokeberries  
249 pounds of highbush cranberries  
342 pounds of chokecherries

Fruit and cones purchased directly from tribal members in 2007:

4.1 bushels of tamarack cones

Fruit and cones purchased under this project were reduced in FY2007 as tribal members were still gathering under the FY2006 project. This contract began in April, 2007 and will be completed on October 30, 2009.



Fruit gathered by Leech Lake Tribal members for restoration projects.

Year Awarded: 2007

Contact: Gary Swanson  
Forest Silviculturist  
218-335-8652

Project completion: October 30, 2009

Report Number 1 of 3

Expenditures:

- FY07 funding \$13,000
- Expended in 2007: \$1,566.85

Partners: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
Minnestorgia Winery  
J. W. Toumey Nursery



**Chippewa National Forest**  
200 Ash Avenue NW  
Cass Lake, MN 56633