



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI
KOWABDANAWA ODĚ KĚ

CLOSURE ORDER

Hunting, Fishing and Gathering

(Dowagiac River Re-Meander Project)

Scope:

The Pokagon Band Hunting and Gathering Code (“Code”) and the Hunting and Gathering Rules and Regulations (“Regulations”) regulate natural resource activities, including hunting and gathering, within Pokagon Band land. Under Section 2.04(b) of the Code, if the Pokagon Band Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) concludes that to protect natural resources or public safety, it is necessary to close all or a portion of a hunting or gathering unit, the DNR may develop and recommend a draft closure order to Tribal Council.

On October 23, 2023, through Resolution No. 23-10-23-05, the Tribal Council approved this Closure Order. In accordance with Section 2.04(h) of the Code: (1) this Closure Order shall remain in effect until further action by the Tribal Council; and (2) DNR shall cause the Tribal Council to review this Closure Order at least once annually.

This Closure Order applies to the: (1) **29-acre area** depicted in Figure 1 (“Closure Area 1”); and (2) **43-acre area** depicted in Figure 2 (“Closure Area 2”). Accordingly, while this Closure Order remains in effect, **no person shall hunt, fish, or gather** in Closure Area 1 or Closure Area 2.

Reasons:

The Dowagiac River Re-Meander Project (“Project”) seeks to restore historic meander bends to the Dowagiac River located on Pokagon Band land, and Project related activities continue within the Closure Area. This Closure Order is necessary to help ensure public safety within the Closure Area for the duration of the Project.

Band Law:

This Closure Order changes the Hunting and Gathering Units located along the Dowagiac River, as depicted in Figure 1 and Figure 2. To the fullest extent permitted under federal law, all persons who engage in natural resource activities within Pokagon Band land, including hunting and gathering, are subject to applicable law, including Pokagon Band law. Any person who violates any applicable law, including this Closure Order, may be subject to criminal and civil penalties.

Jennifer Kanine, PhD, CWB®
Director, Kowabdanawa odě kě



Figure 1. Hunting and gathering closure area where the Dowagiac River Re-Meander project Phase 2 restoration continues during 2023 and 2024. The closure area is 29 acres.



Figure 2. Hunting and Gathering closure area where the Dowagiac River Re-Meander project, Phase 1 restoration continues during 2023 and 2024. The closure area is 43 acres.