

(7) Federal Register Notice of Final Determination

- March 25, 1980

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

**Determination for Federal
Acknowledgment of the Grand
Traverse Band of Ottawa and
Chippewa Indians as an Indian Tribe**

This notice is published in the exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Pursuant to 25 CFR 54.9(h) notice is hereby given that the Assistant Secretary acknowledges that the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, c/o Miss Ardith Harris, Post Office Box 37, Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682, exists as an Indian tribe. This notice is based on a determination that the group satisfied the criteria set forth in 25 CFR 54.7.

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians is the modern successor of several bands of Ottawas and Chippewas which have a documented continuous existence in the Grand Traverse Bay area of Michigan since as early as 1675. Evidence indicates these bands, and the subsequent combined band, have existed autonomously since first contact with a series of leaders who represented the band in its dealings with outside organizations, and who both responded to and influenced the band in matters of importance. The membership is unquestionably Indian, of Ottawa and Chippewa descent. No evidence was found that the members of the band are members of any other Indian tribes, or that the band or its members have been terminated or forbidden the Federal relationship by an Act of Congress.

Proposed findings that the band exists as an Indian tribe were published on page 60171 of the Federal Register of October 12, 1979.

Interested parties were given 120 days in which to submit factual or legal arguments to rebut evidence used to support the findings that the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians exists as an Indian tribe. The 120-day comment period ended February 16.

One response to the proposed findings was received. It suggested that one of the groups which formed the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians had come most immediately from Allegan County, although not disputing the earlier origin of this group in the north. It also suggested that there was no pressure from white settlement in the area until 1840, although not disputing the occurrence of significant cultural changes among the Indians beginning by 1800.

These comments do not factually or legally rebut the evidence used to support the proposed findings and do not take issue with the proposed findings. Consequently, they do not affect the Assistant Secretary's determination that the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians exists as an Indian tribe.

This determination shall become effective May 27, 1980 unless the Secretary of the Interior requests the determination be reconsidered pursuant to 25 CFR 54.10.

Rick Levin,

Deputy Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs

(FR Doc. 80-0006 Filed 3-24-80; 8:45 am.)

ILLINOIS CODE 4010-05-01