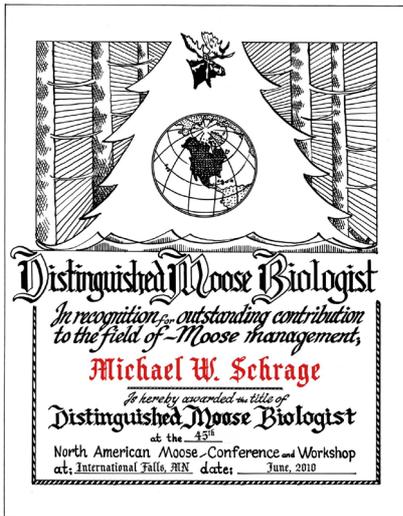


## MICHAEL W. SCHRAGE

### DISTINGUISHED MOOSE BIOLOGIST - 2010 RECIPIENT



The Distinguished Moose Biologist Award was presented to Mike Schrage at the 45<sup>th</sup> North American Moose Conference and Workshop, International Falls, Minnesota, June 23-26, 2010 in recognition of his many contributions to our understanding of moose biology and management.

Mike received his B.S. from the University of Idaho in 1990, where he learned a great deal about moose from Dr. Jim Peek (DMB, 1994) who also served as his undergraduate advisor. Mike went on to Virginia Tech and received his M.S. in 1994 while studying black bear. After receiving his M.S. Mike became the Wildlife Biologist for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa based out of Cloquet, Minnesota in 1995.

His management responsibility is for all wildlife species and hunting and trapping activities on the Fond du Lac Reservation and in their treaty areas of northeast and east-central Minnesota. Among the various projects are population surveys, habitat management projects and liaison with other government and tribal agencies and private organizations where policy and actions may impact Fond du Lac's treaty rights.

However, Mike's main interest is moose. Although Mike does not need to publish as a wildlife biologist for the Fond du Lac, he has been a co-author on peer-reviewed publications on moose in Minnesota and Isle Royale, and has contributed data and effort towards many Minnesota DNR publications on moose. In addition, Mike has authored numerous internal reports for the Fond du Lac Band, and reports to granting agencies for various contracts.

Mike has been and is an integral member of the group of managers and scientists working on moose in Northeastern Minnesota. Each year he participates in the moose harvest planning with the DNR and other Native American bands. He has manned check stations every year since the mid-1990's and is part of the moose aerial survey in January. He has given numerous presentations to the public and has had frequent contact with many media outlets.

He is a principal investigator on the VHF telemetry project that identified the higher mortality rates of adult moose in northeastern Minnesota over the last decade. Mike has also spent countless hours conducting over 110 field necropsies of moose in NE Minnesota. Mike has also assisted Dr. Peter Jordan (DMB 1998) and Dr. Rolf Peterson (DMB 1990) with their research projects on Isle Royale National Park. Mike helped organize the 35th North American Moose Conference on the Grand Portage Reservation in 1999 and the 45th NAMC in International Falls, Minnesota.

Clearly Mike has been a tireless advocate for moose management for 16 years. The North American Moose Conference and Workshop is proud to recognize the professional experience of Mike Schrage, recipient of this year's Distinguished Moose Biologist Award.