

# Impacts on Wild Rice from Industry

## Lesson Plan

### MINDS ON

#### Initial Class Discussion

Why is water important? (generate a list of ideas)

#### Exploring Our Relationship With Water: POV Chart

Create a chart and complete it as students watch the videos in this lesson. As the chart is filled in, engage students in a discussion around what they notice in terms of how views on water and our relationship with water can either promote sustainability and healthy ecosystems or have a negative impact.

Our view	Anishinaabe (Indigenous) view	Corporation/Industry view
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#### Watch the video [Water Is Life](#)

What are some of the key points about the importance and our relationship with water that are presented in the video? (add to the POVchart)

Did the video confirm anything from the previous discussion on why water is important?

Can anything be added to this list?

How might this view on water differ from how companies or industry view water?

#### About Shannon Paul

Shannon Paul is an artist from Treaty 3, Northwest Angle #33 in Lake of the Woods, Ontario. She has worked with children and youth for five years in a variety of capacities including, counseling, crisis intervention, cultural enrichment and cultural teachings and instruction for young women. She avoids a pan-Indigenous approach and utilizes child-centered techniques to her teaching style. Shannon is able to conduct rites of passage ceremonies for children and youth and has served as a helper for community events such as sacred fires, pow wows, funeral services and graduations.

Her education includes a major in History at the University of Winnipeg in the Faculty of Education and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts. Her focus was on Indigenous culture and history, Indigenous laws and women's issues. Effective teaching and working with students in a classroom has been her continued focus; she has created lesson plans that are both culturally congruent and culturally safe for classroom settings. Her passion and commitment to sharing Indigenous cultural and educational practices has led her to be a role model for others in the community and resulted in traveling across Turtle Island to share and gather teachings and songs. Living and growing up in the city motivated her and inspired her to learn about Indigenous land-based education. She shares her medicine teachings, builds lodges and is an active learner in her traditional language. Shannon also has a gift for communicating difficult topics such as historical and intergenerational trauma in a child appropriate, sensitive manner using child friendly language.

Land based education in Shannon's personal journey has also allowed her to learn and share about gardening, traditional tanning and Indigenous astronomy and constellations. It also includes fishing, hunting and mapping which she feels is important to focus on the traditional and ancestral names of the land, land markers and waters in her territory. Shannon's wish is to continue to work with children and youth, to share what she has learned with them to promote compassion, truth and Indigenous culture and history through an Indigenous lens.

## **ACTION**

Students will explore the current impacts of the water dams on wild rice in Lake of the Woods, Ontario and the Anishinaabek.

Watch the video [Impacts of Colonialism on Wild Rice](#)

What are some reasons for constructing dams?

What are the positive and negative impacts?

Can you think of another technology or invention that also has positive and negative impacts

The Anishinaabek have protected rights to carry out their traditional harvesting practices. How are the dams infringing on these rights?

### **Additional information:**

To learn more about the Ojibways of Onigaming click [HERE](#)

**Learn more about other communities facing similar challenges:**

<https://www.cbc.ca/cbcdocspov/episodes/cottagers-indians>

<https://gem.cbc.ca/media/cbc-docs-pov/s04e01>

[Troubled waters: Disputes over lakes, waterfronts have roared between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians](#)

['Cottagers & Indians': The battle over water rights near my reserve](#)

[Ruckus over rice: A thorny issue that has Indigenous activists facing off with local cottagers and residents](#)

What is an action you can take to support the Anishinaabek in their rights to plant and harvest wild rice?

Would could be a possible resolution to meet the needs of everyone involved? What would you propose?

## **CONSOLIDATION**

Watch the video [Hohepa Hei on the Significance of Water](#)

Inquiry prompts

### **About Hohepa Hei**

Hohepa originates from the tribes of the East Coast of the North Island of New Zealand (Te Tairāwhiti) and is a descendant of Te Whakatohea, Te Whanau a Apanui, Ngāti Porou, Te Aitanga a Mahaki and Te Aitanga a Hauiti. Hohepa was fortunate to be raised and immersed in his language and holds fast to the dialects of all the tribes he descends from. In his early years, he was raised by his grandmother and great grandfather, being the eldest child in his family Hohepa had the privilege of being taught their traditional prayers, traditions, histories, genealogy, the arts and much more. It was through the guidance of my grandmother that he took up tertiary studies to gain a Bachelor of Arts in Te Reo Māori from the University of Waikato in Hamilton City, later gaining a second degree from Te Wananga o Raukawa in teaching.

With over 20 years as an educator, Hohepa has served as the Deputy Principal at Te Wharekura o Maniopotō (tribal school), worked at the Ministry of Education and is currently the Education Group Manager for Te Pou Oranga o Whakatohea. Hohepa focuses on building and creating innovative indigenous teaching spaces and learning

methodologies that capture the adventurous storytelling mind of ancient teachers in a modern context. Hohepa has focused on project-based learning approaches binding together ancient and modern teaching methodologies and practices and encourages community involvement in school wide initiatives to strengthen and empower the people.

**Watch the video: [Importance of Indigenous Knowledge Systems by Wilfred Buck](#)**

Hohepa and Wilfred

What are some of the key points about the importance and our relationship with water that are presented in the video? (add to the POVchart)

How has the degradation of IK led to the degradation of our waters and ecosystems? How can we change this?