

Migizi (Bald Eagle) Mille Lacs, MN 1867-1927

Migizi was born at Mille Lacs in 1867. In 1902 a small group of band members led by Chief Migizi and Chief Wadena refused to leave their land.

In 1914 Migizi obtained a promise from Congress to purchase 40-acre home sites for the landless band members. By the time the sites were distributed 12 years later, they were reduced to 5 acres.

The determination of chiefs Wadena and Migizi to remain at Mille Lacs instead of relocating to the newly created White Earth Reservation in the 1860's eventually ensured a permanent homeland on Mille Lacs Lake for the "nonremovable" Ojibwes who followed their example and stayed.

Migiz died in 1927 before he could witness the final congressional approval of the Mille Lacs homesites.