

# RIGHTS OF MANOOMIN/PSIN

A resolution that would recognize the rights of wild rice or manoomin/psin to exist and flourish

- Wild rice or manoomin/psin is the state grain.
- Manoomin/Psin is central to Anishinaabeg and Dakota culture and traditions. Manoomin/Psin is no longer able to thrive in Southern Minnesota as it used to, this is mainly due to human activities.
- Manoomin/Psin is central to tribal economies and plays a huge role in the state economy.
- Manoomin/Psin is considered a “superfood” that requires no pesticides or fertilizers to grow!
- More than 17 species of wildlife listed in the MNDNR’s Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy as “species of greatest conservation need” use wild rice lakes as habitat for reproduction or foraging.
- According to the Governor’s wild rice task force, historical data shows wild rice has decreased in abundance in Minnesota.

## Now is the time to protect manoomin/psin

Manoomin/Psin faces many threats from climate change, invasive species, and pollution. Proposed mines like Polymet and Talon threaten Manoomin/Psin. Sulfates, a by-product of these proposed mines, have been linked to the decline of wild rice.

## How can a Rights of Manoomin/Psin resolution help?

This approach shifts the legal framework from viewing nature as property to recognizing its rights to exist, thrive, and regenerate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

that Manoomin/Psin is sacred and central to the culture and health of Indigenous Peoples in Minnesota and critical to the health and identity of all Minnesota citizens and ecosystems.