

January 11, 2016

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20426

RE: Flambeau Lower FERC Project Number 2421

Flambeau Hydro LLC

Final Report 2015 Purple Loosestrife Inventory Report

Dear Ms. Bose:

On behalf of Flambeau Hydro LLC, "Flambeau" (Licensee), Renewable World Energies, LLC (RWE) is submitting a copy of the Final Report 2015 Purple Loosestrife Inventory Report for the Flambeau Lower Hydroelectric Project. The report is a requirement of Flambeau's Federal license pursuant to article 410. Monitoring was conducted on August 25, 2015. No out of the ordinary issues were encountered and no Purple Loosestrife was observed. The draft report was sent to the agencies by a letter dated November 9, 2015 as an attachment to an e-mail sent the same day for review and comment. Comment was received from WDNR on December 1, 2015 saying "the reports had been reviewed and they do not have any comments". No comments have been received from the USFWS. The next scheduled monitoring event will be conducted in 2016.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact Mr. Gary Rast at the Renewable World Energies, LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 Ext 105. He can also be reached by e-mail at grast@rwehydro.com.



Sincerely,

Renewable World Energies, LLC

Agent for Licensee

Mr. Jason Kreuscher

Vice President

Attachment: Flambeau Lower Final Purple Loosestrife Inventory Report

Cc: Ms. Cheryl Laatsch, WDNR

Mr. Nick Utrup, USFWS

RWE, Corporate

Flambeau Lower Project Purple Loosestrife Inventory August 25, 2015 FERC Project # 2421 Article 410

Flambeau Hydro LLC 100 S. State St. Neshkoro, WI 54960

Purple Loosestrife

On August 25, 2015, Flambeau Hydro, LLC (FHLLC) performed an inventory of purple loosestrife plants at the Flambeau Lower Project in Price County, Wisconsin. The method of inventory as approved and modified by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order of June 18, 2003 was defined as follows:

While Purple Loosestrife is blooming in mid-July to early August, the inventory should be conducted using a boat to survey the impoundment above the dam within the Project Boundary and on foot or by boat below the dam within the Project Boundary. County wetland maps may be used to determine other areas where Purple Loosestrife could be found on lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary. Lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary will be surveyed on foot. A pair of binoculars should be used to search for the purple flowered spikes of the plant. When plants are located, the person(s) inventorying should get close enough to make a positive identification without disturbing the plants or the immediate area around the plants as this could cause them to spread. A GPS receiver will be used to establish a GPS coordinate for the location of the plants. If it is not possible to get close enough to establish an accurate location, an approximate location will be established with reference to an established GPS coordinate. The plants should be inventoried by marking and numbering the location on a Project map along with notes approximating size of plants, stand area, percent cover, stem density, plant density, and location with reference to established GPS coordinates. Photos and/or videotape will be taken of the largest occurrences.

### Example:

#1) 6' tall plants; 4' x 20'; 30% cover; 4-5 stems per plant; 4 plants; on shoreline N45 56.183' W90 26.748'; no photo

#2) 5'-7' tall plants; 10' x 10'; 25% cover; 4-5 stems per plant; 10 plants; in marsh  $\sim$ 50 feet Bearing 25 degrees from N45 56.256' W90 26.710'; photo No. 1

The area to be inventoried shall be the shoreline of the impoundment to elevation 1468 feet NGVD and lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary as indicated on the Project Maps 1, dated November 1991, included in Exhibit G of Flambeau Paper Corp. Application for a Subsequent License for the Lower Hydroelectric Project FERC Project #2421.

#### General Observations:

The Flambeau Lower Project Boundary was divided into three different areas; *the impoundment* (from HWY 182 bridge in Park Falls to the dam), *FHLLC-owned property within the project boundary* (FHLLC owned property adjacent to the dam and powerhouse), and *the tailrace* (from the dam and powerhouse to the HWY 13 bridge).

The tailrace was surveyed by boat and no purple loosestrife plants were observed.

The FHLLC-owned property within the project boundary was surveyed on foot and no purple loosestrife plants were observed.

The impoundment was surveyed by boat and no purple loosestrife plants were observed.

All survey information has been entered into the SWIMS database for the 2015 year.

If any purple loosestrife plants had been found during the inventory, a digital camera would have been used to document these occurrences and GPS coordinates for the location of the plants would have been recorded.

Purple Loosestrife Survey

Project: Flambeau Lower #2421

August 25, 2015

Datum:

WGS 84

1 of 1

Page:

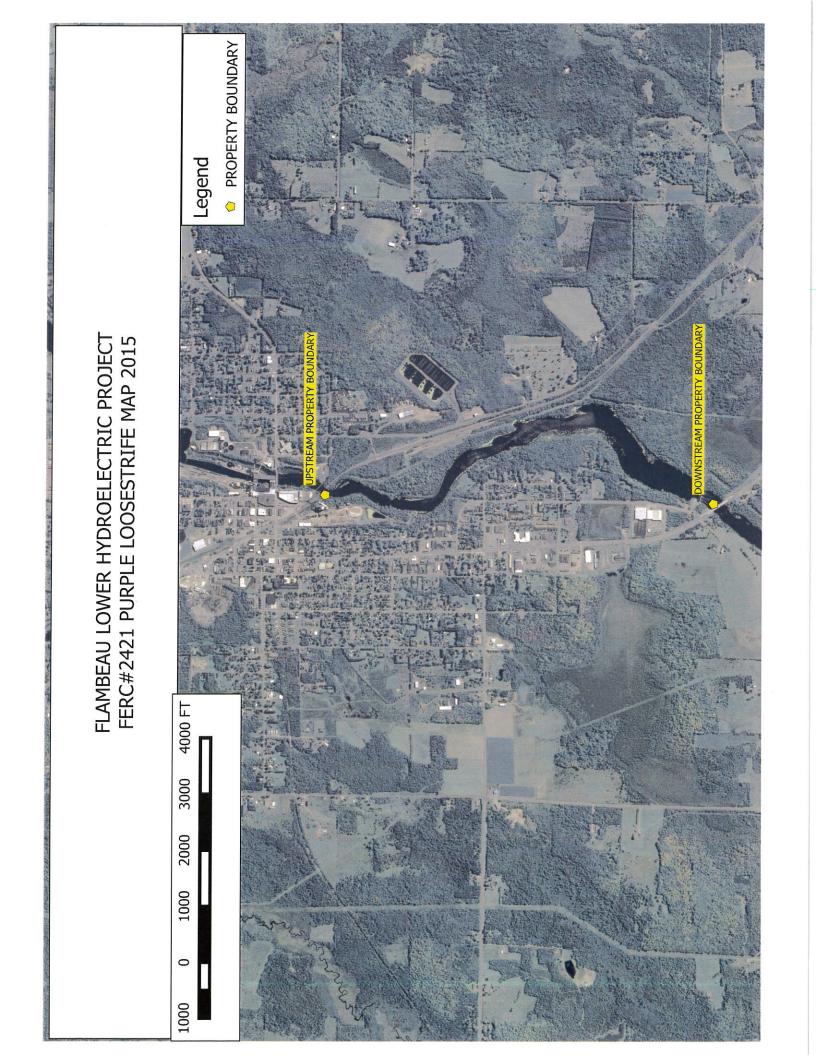
August 25,

Date:

GGR and JT

Crew:

No occurrences of purple loosestrife were found within the project boundary in 2015. Comments Stand Area Plant Height Longitude GPS Point Latitude Sighting #



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## Year 2015 Purple Loosestrife Survey

## Flambeau Lower Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2421

Date: 8/25/15	Conducted By: GARY	RAST SJIM TESCH PROJECT FLOW 583 CFS
HWL: 1467.162	TWL: <u>/448</u> , 6	- PRATECT FLOW
Time Survey Started: \( \begin{aligned} \pi \langle 00 \end{aligned} \]	PM Time Survey Ended:	1:45 PM
Weather Conditions: OUER BAR @ 30,03	CAST, WINDS @	
Location of Survey Area: Tailrace Time of Sighting(s):		N .
Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordi	nates): N/A —	
Purple Loosestrife: Nove Other Species Observed: GFF (SCARTING)		
<u>Ot</u>	ther Pertinent Survey Information	
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10-12-17 GGR FLLW PL Survey Form	/	ey Kast

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# Year 2015 Purple Loosestrife Survey

## Flambeau Lower Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2421

Date: 8/25/15	Conducted By:	RAST + JIM TES
HWL: 1467,162	TWL: 1448-6	- PROJECT FL
Time Survey Started: /20Pm	Time Survey Ended:	1:45 Pm
Weather Conditions:	S N/W Q5MF	PH, OVERCAST, 55
+ BAR@ 30,04		
Location of Survey Area: Tailrace	Bypass Reach	Impoundment
Time of Sighting(s):	N/A -	
Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinat	tes):	
Day Alays		(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)
Purple Loosestrife: ADALE		
Other Species Observed:		
Other	r Pertinent Survey Information	
	G	a Rast
	10	ast ast

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## Year 2015 Purple Loosestrife Survey

## Flambeau Lower Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2421

Date: 8/25/15 Cond	ucted By: CARYRASTA JIM TESCH
HWL: 1467,162 TWL	1448.6 PROJECT FLOW
Time Survey Started: 2.00 PM	Time Survey Ended: 20PM
Weather Conditions: OVERCAST	- 50°F, CEINDS N EPMPH+(
@/6MPH, & BAR@	30.04
Location of Survey Area: Tailrace	CANOE PORTAGE Bypass Reach Impoundment
Time of Sighting(s):	N/A
Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates):	01/10
Purple Loosestrife:	(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)
Other Pertine	nt Survey Information
	Lay Rust

10-12-17 GGR FLLW PL Survey Form



Correspondence

## **Gary Rast**

From:

Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR < Cheryl.Laatsch@wisconsin.gov>

Sent:

Tuesday, December 01, 2015 10:14 AM

To:

Gary Rast; Jason Kreuscher

Subject:

FW: AIS reports for Crowley, Pixley, FLambeau Upper, Flambeau Lower

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See below.

#### We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <a href="http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey">http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey</a> to evaluate how I did.

Cheryl Laatsch Phone: 920-387-7869

Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov

From: Kleist, Jon J - DNR

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 2:15 PM

**To:** Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR **Cc:** Aartila, Tom P - DNR

Subject: RE: AIS reports for Crowley, Pixley, Flambeau Upper, Flambeau Lower

Hi Cheryl,

I reviewed the 4 reports. I do not have any comments. The only reported PL was on Crowley flowage which was reported to be removed by hand (except for one plant) We will see if the hand removal was successful next year.

Let me know if you need anything else

Thanks

Jon

#### We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <a href="http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey">http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey</a> to evaluate how I did.

Jon Kleist

Phone: 715-762-1344 jon.kleist@wisconsin.gov

From: Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR

**Sent:** Monday, November 16, 2015 9:02 AM **To:** Roesler, Craig P - DNR; Kleist, Jon J - DNR

Cc: Aartila, Tom P - DNR

Subject: AIS reports for Crowley, Pixley, FLambeau Upper, Flambeau Lower

Importance: High

Here are 4 reports from RWE for AIS monitoring. Please take a look and let me know if you have any comments or questions. Please respond by Nov 30. Thanks for your assistance.

### We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <a href="http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey">http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey</a> to evaluate how I did.

## Cheryl Laatsch

Statewide FERC Coordinator – Watershed Bureau/Water Division Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources N7225 Highway 28, Horicon WI 53032

Phone: 920-387-7869 Fax: 920-387-7888

Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov







November 9, 2015

Mr. Nick Utrup U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service WI/MN Ecological Services Field Office 4101 American Boulevard East Bloomington, MN 55425

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch Statewide FERC Coordinator Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources N7725 HWY 28 Horicon, WI 53032

Re:

Flambeau Lower Project FERC # 2421

Flambeau Hydro, LLC

Article 410, 2015 DRAFT Purple Loosestrife Inventory

Dear Ms. Laatsch, and Mr. Utrup:

Attached you will find a copy of the Flambeau Hydro, LLC "Purple Loosestrife Inventory" for 2015. This annual report has been prepared to comply with the federal hydropower license of the project and article named above. A final copy will be filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with any comments you might add by the end of January.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact Mr. Gary Rast at Renewable World Energies Neshkoro office @ (855)994-9376, ext. 105. He can also be reached via email at grast <u>a rwehydro.com</u>.

Sincerely,

Renewable World Energies, LLC

Agent For Licensee

Mr. Jason Kreuscher

Vice President, Operations

Attachment: Flambeau Lower 2015 Purple Loosestrife Inventory Draft Report

CC: RWE Corporate

15-11-09 GGR FLLW 2015 P L Inv Draft Rpt To AG

**Corporate Office** 

P.O. Box 264 100 S. State Street Neshkoro, WI 54960 Fax: 920-293-4100 Phone: 855-99HYDRO (855-994-9376) www.renewableworldenergies.com Administrative Office 1001 Stephenson Street Norway, MI 49870 Fax: 906-563-9344

## **Gary Rast**

From:

Gary Rast

Sent:

Monday, November 09, 2015 12:10 PM

To:

'Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR'; Utrup, Nick

Subject:

Draft FLLW 2015 PL Report

Attachments:

15-11-09 GGR FLLW 2015 PL INV DRAFT RPT TO AG.pdf

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Cheryl & Nick,

Attached is the 2015 Draft Purple Loosestrife Report for the Flambeau Lower Hydro Project.

Gary

Gary Rast Regulatory/Compliance Manager



Renewable World Energies, LLC 100 S. State Street P.O. Box 264 Neshkoro, WI 54960 Phone: 855-994-9376 Ext. 105

Fax: 920-293-4100 Cell: 920-570-0995

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