



August 31, 2016

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Mail Code: DTCA, HL 21.3  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426

FERC Project No. 1981

Dear Secretary Salas:

As per the Order Issuing New License for the Stiles Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 1981) dated February 26, 2003, Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC) is enclosing documentation of the recently completed Exotic Species Control Plan for 2016, required in Article 407 of the License.

The Exotic Species Control Plan specifically addresses purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*.) A copy of the plan, which requires an annual survey of the Machickanee Flowage, is attached as Exhibit I. The purpose of the survey is to identify and quantify possible colonies of purple loosestrife. If colonies of 1-5 plants are found on OEC owned land, removal or treatment is required. If colonies are found on private land, OEC is responsible for contacting the property owners and encouraging the owners to remove and destroy the plants.

On August 15, 2016, Jan Stranz of OEC and Al Stranz (volunteer) conducted a survey by water of the shoreline of the Machickanee Flowage, including shoreline owned by OEC. The surveyors noted locations on a map and indicated the GPS coordinates for the plants they discovered. Their survey sheet is included as Exhibit II (a) and their map is Exhibit II (b). Letters were sent to the appropriate property owners, notifying them of the presence of purple loosestrife on their land. Included in the mailing was a brochure instructing them about proper removal of the plant. A copy of the letter sent to property owners is included as Exhibit III (a) and the brochure is Exhibit III (b). Results of the survey are sent to the Machickanee Advancement Association, Wisconsin DNR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the FERC.

If you have questions about this report, please contact me at (920) 846-2816.

Sincerely,

Kent Lyng  
VP Operations/Engineering

Enclosures: Exhibits

CC: Coordinator-FERC Projects, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Robert Rodich, President-Machickanee Advancement Association



## **Exotic Species Control Plan**

### **General Guidelines**

Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC), along with appropriate local groups and resource agencies, will continually work to control/eliminate exotic species, such as purple loosestrife, Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels, in the project area. The project area is defined as those lands owned by OEC and the shoreline observable from the flowage. Although OEC will be responsible for coordinating efforts to control and eliminate exotics occurring on its own property, it is limited to supplying information to neighboring property owners.

When exotics are classified and identified by local or state authorities, OEC will proceed with a plan to monitor the identified species. The plan elements include: 1) method of monitoring, 2) frequency of monitoring, 3) documentation of transmission of monitoring data to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Machickanee Flowage Advancement Association (MFAA), 4) procedures for obtaining technical assistance and input from the WDNR, or other appropriate agencies, and 5) specific information on how OEC will cooperate with the agencies to control/eliminate the exotic species.

Along with the plan, OEC will include documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been provided to the agencies, and descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the plan. OEC will allow thirty (30) days for the agencies to comment and make recommendations before filing the plan with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). If OEC does not adopt a recommendation, the filing will include OEC's reasons based on project-specific information.

Oconto Electric Cooperative will post signs at recreation facilities on its property describing identified exotic species and informing the public on the control of the species. OEC will distribute fact sheets provided by the WDNR, or other appropriate agencies, at the project.

### **Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) Plan**

OEC shall, in consultation with the MFAA, the WDNR, and the USFWS, monitor purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) in specified project areas. The project lands, reservoir area, and ¼ mile downstream from the project will be surveyed by OEC during peak flowering stage, being mid July/mid August of each year. OEC will estimate and map the amount of infestation of purple loosestrife.

If small colonies of purple loosestrife consisting of 1-5 plants are found on OEC-owned land, OEC will remove it and all of its roots, or cut and then spray it with an appropriate aquatic herbicide. Larger colonies will be removed after consultation with the resource agencies. If purple loosestrife is found on lands NOT owned by OEC, then OEC, in conjunction with the MFAA, will contact the property owner and encourage the owner to remove the plants.

Oconto Electric Cooperative will post signs at recreation facilities on its property describing purple loosestrife and informing the public on the control of this plant. OEC will distribute fact sheets provided by the WDNR, or other appropriate agencies, at the project.

After survey results are compiled and any remedial actions are taken, a report detailing such results and actions will be submitted by OEC to the MFAA, WDNR, and USFWS, with a copy to FERC by October 31 of each year.

### **Eurasian Milfoil**

There is no plan to monitor or map Eurasian milfoil in the Machickanee Flowage because of its prolific presence throughout the flowage. The MFAA, in cooperation with the WDNR and other groups, has been attempting for years to eradicate this exotic species. OEC agrees that Eurasian milfoil is undesirable. If any agency or group devises a cost-effective plan to control/eradicate this species, OEC will cooperate with that plan.

2 hrs.

Page 1 of 1

# Purple Loosetree Survey Data Sheet

Survey date:	County:	Name(s) of waterbody(ies):
8-15-16	Oconto	Machickanees Flowage
Volunteer:	Address:	Phone/e-mail:
Jan Stranz - DEC	Oconto Electric Co-op 7479 RED Rd - Box 168 Oconto Falls WI 54154	920-846-2816 jstranz@ocontoelectric.com
Volunteer:	Address:	Phone/e-mail:
Al Stranz	7011 Burdesh Rd Abrams WI 54101	920-373-6146
Volunteer:	Address:	Phone/e-mail:

## NOTES

**SAMPLE**

Site #	Number of plants			Acreage (1 acre = 1 football field)		Density of PL plants		Galerucella beetles		NOTES
	1-10	11-49	50+	Less than 1 acre	More than 1 acre	Sparse	Very dense	Leaf damage	Gal. beetles	
17		X		X			X	X		W side of river, N of Hwy 64 bridge. Saw several more, no beetles. 44°51.19'N 88°03.36'W no medium pluck of cattails 44°51.16'N 88°03.41'W along shore in bay - log house 44°51.05'N 88°04.02'W in upper outside mass of cattails 44°51.11'N 88°04.56'W 200 yds West of coordinates - cattails 44°51.17'N 88°05.06'W in water in cattails 44°51.07'N 88°04.55'W Run back along side of road 44°50.58'N 88°04.22'W 400 yds North of coordinates 44°51.45'N 88°03.30'W in the water 44°51.46'N 88°03.30'W along C.D. E 44°51.26'N 88°03.17'W between deer fence & fishing pier
1	2						X			
2	8									
3	1									
4	1									
5	10									
6	1									
7	1									
8	3									
9	6									
10	2	Removed by Kent Ligny on 8/5/16								
				</						

Mail this data sheet and your map to  
**WWA, Purple Loosestrife Survey Data, 222 South Hamilton Street, Suite 1, Madison, Wisconsin 53703**

Exhibit II (b)

OCOONTO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
FERC # 1981 - STILES PROJECT  
MACHICKANEE FLOWAGE  
OCOONTO COUNTY, WISCONSIN

SURVEY COMPLETED ON 8/15/2016

Search...

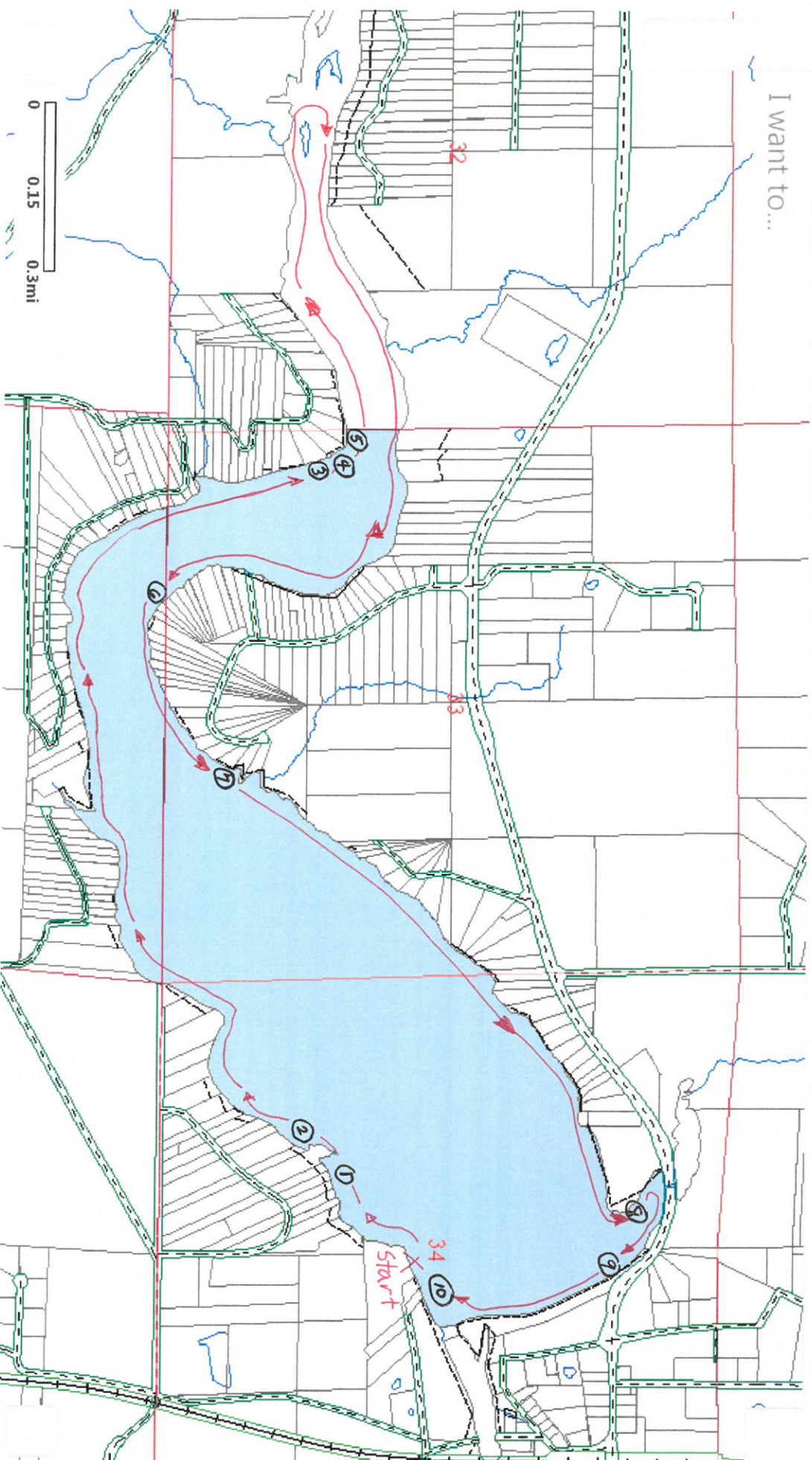
Sign in



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August 31, 2016

Dear Machickanee Area Property Owner and OEC Member:

Annually since 2003, Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC) has conducted a survey by water of the shoreline of the Machickanee Flowage. This survey is a requirement of OEC's 30-year operating license for the Stiles hydroelectric plant on the Machickanee Flowage and is part of a process to ensure that the environment around the hydro project is protected and enhanced for years to come. During the survey, we monitor and track the occurrence of a non-native plant known as purple loosestrife.

Though beautiful to view, purple loosestrife is an exotic, invasive plant species. Left unchecked, it will gradually overrun native vegetation and will cause deficiencies in the ecosystem. It especially likes moist soil, so it's commonly found near waterways and in roadside ditches. Wisconsin state law bans the sale, distribution and cultivation of purple loosestrife. This year's survey of the Machickanee Flowage shoreline was conducted on August 15, 2016 by an OEC employee and a volunteer. During the survey, occurrences of purple loosestrife were located and identified.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you, the approximate landowner, that purple loosestrife was found on or near your property. We ask that you review the enclosed brochure describing purple loosestrife and the methods of controlling it. We encourage you to remove it according to information in the brochure. Control of purple loosestrife at this point is very important in reducing the plant's ability to spread. If you would like assistance in removing it, please contact OEC for more details. Our contact information is listed below.

Thank you for your help in this very important effort to eliminate purple loosestrife and thus enhance a healthy plant environment around the Machickanee Flowage.

Sincerely,

Kent A. Lyng  
VP – Operations & Engineering

Enclosure



Exhibit III (b)

Alex & Barbara Korth  
4981 Spirea Rd  
Oconto WI 54153

Martin & Susan Jakubiek  
4983 Spirea Rd  
Oconto WI 54153

Janet Pascoe  
2170 Ray Ln  
Krakow WI 54137

Bradley Berndt  
4973 Spirea Rd  
Oconto WI 54153

Scott Martell  
5040 W Slope Lane  
Oconto WI 54153

John Kulish  
6604 West Slope Ln  
Oconto WI 54153

Kenneth & Cindy Thompson  
209 Madison St  
Oconto WI 54153

Donald & Gayle Hein  
1368 Orchid Ln  
Green Bay WI 54313

Penny Hujet  
4925 Machickanee Ln  
Lena WI 54139

Michael & Sharon Seidl  
4919 Machickanee Ln  
Lena WI 54139