



**Wisconsin Public Service Corporation**  
700 North Adams Street  
P.O. Box 19001  
Green Bay, WI 54307-9001  
www.wisconsinpublicservice.com

December 15, 2016

FERC Project No. 1999  
NATDAM No. WI00752

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE  
Washington DC 20425

Dear Ms. Bose:

Wausau Hydroelectric Project  
2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

In accordance with the order Amending Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Plan issued January 20, 2015, Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) is required to provide annual updates on the *Galerucella species* beetles (beetles) release sites and purple loosestrife (PL) populations.

On July 5 and August 12, 2016, surveys for PL were conducted at the Wausau Hydroelectric Project (Project). The survey identified a total of twenty (20) PL colonies. No PL colonies were cut or sprayed to avoid adverse impacts to existing or potential new populations of beetles. Each colony was issued a number and mapped. Plant vigor information was recorded for each colony. In 2016, a sum total of approximately 3,000 beetles were released in two different locations to supplement existing beetle populations. The 2016 PL figure and spreadsheet showing colony locations, beetle release locations, and plant vigor survey are included in Appendix A.

A review of the data shows that beetle populations are still not present in all areas of the reservoir. WPS proposes to continue monitoring for PL and to continue releasing a minimum sum total of 2,000 beetles in at least two separate locations. This is planned as a biological control method to attempt to establish healthy beetle populations throughout the Project.

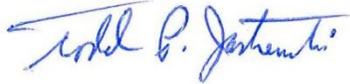
After three years of data collection (2015 – 2017), WPS must consult with the resource agencies and file a summary of the data and a recommendation on the schedule for conducting and reporting future purple loosestrife surveys with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). WPS is at the end of year two of the three year plan.

A copy of the report was submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on October 31, 2016. FWS did not provide comments. WDNR provided comments on November 2, 2016. WPS's response and documentation of consultation is located in Appendix B.

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose  
December 15, 2016  
Page 2 of 2

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Jes Roloff at (920) 433-5558.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd P. Jastremski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Todd P. Jastremski  
Asset Manager Hydro Operations  
We Energies  
800 Industrial Park Drive  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

JRR/rjv

Enc. Appendix A, Appendix B

cc: Ms. Cheryl Laatsch, WDNR  
Mr. Nicholas Utrup, USFWS  
Mr. John Zygaj, FERC - CRO

APPENDIX A  
2016 PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE FIGURES AND DATA

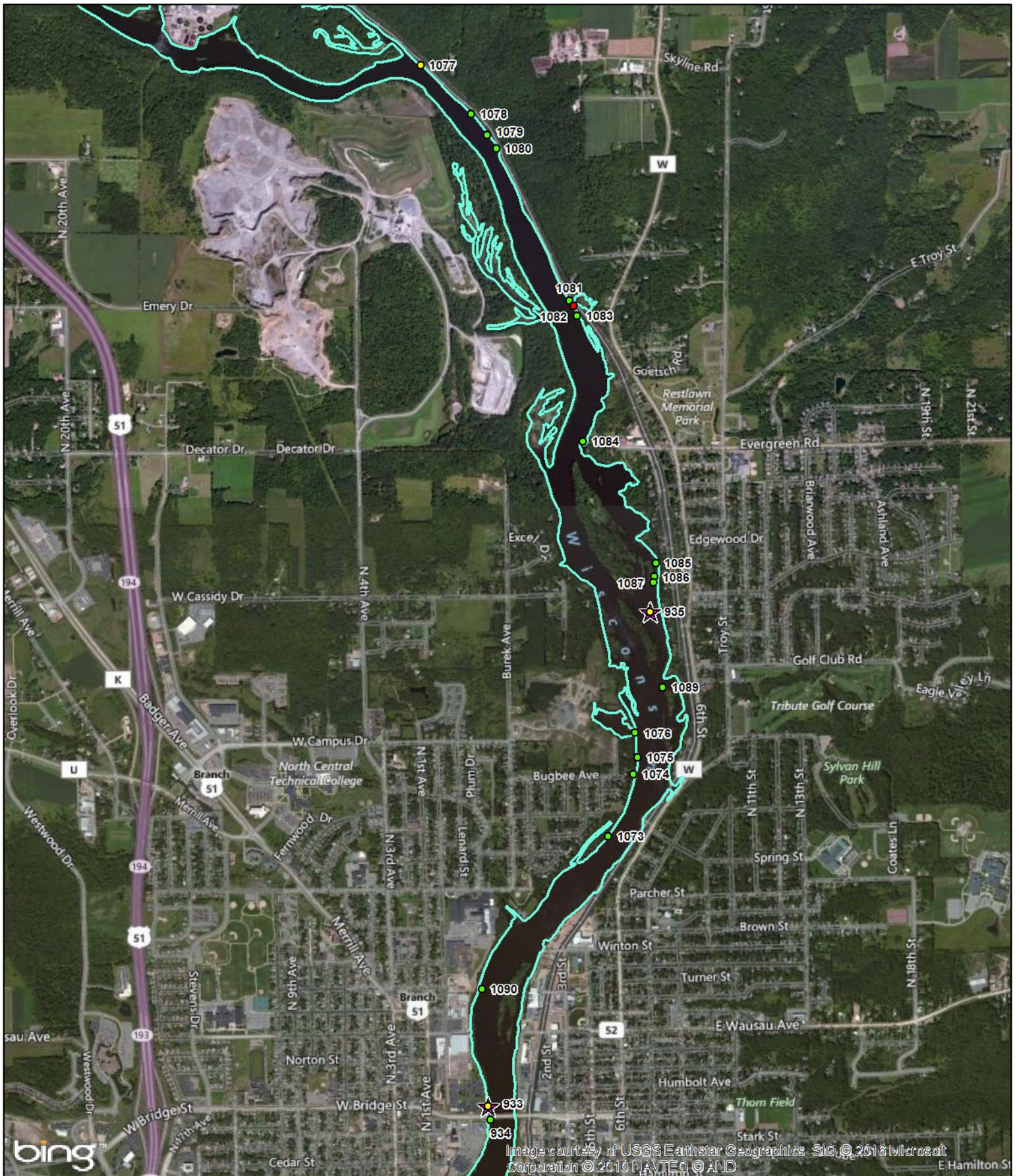
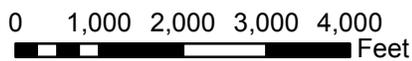


Image courtesy of USGS Earthstar Geographics, LLC, © 2015 Microsoft Corporation © 2010 NAVTEQ © AND



## 2016 Wausau Purple Loosestrife Survey



Date: 10/24/2016

- Project Boundary
- Purple Loosestrife-2016**
- 0-5 Plants
- 6-50 Plants
- >50 Plants
- ★ Beetle Release Site

## Purple Loosestrife Survey Form

Hydroelectric project: Wausau Hydroelectric Project

Inspection date: 7/14/2016 & 8/12/2016

Colony ID #	Colony Size S 0-5 M 6-50 L >50	General Plant Vigor			Total Plant Vigor 10-12 = good 7-9 = fair 4-6 = poor 0-3 = very poor	Notes	GPS Point
		Plant Height 4 = >4ft 3 = 2-4ft 2 = 1-2ft 1 = <1ft	Plant Flowering 4 = 100% of plants 3 = 51-99% of plants 2 = 26-50% of plants 1 = <25% of plants	Beetle Feeding 4 = <25% feeding 3 = 26-50% feeding 2 = 51-75% feeding 1 = >76% feeding			
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1084	S	4	4	4	12		1084
1085	S	3	3	3	9		1085
1086	S	3	2	2	7		1086
1087	S	3	4	4	11		1087
1089	S	3	4	4	11		1089
1090	S	3	3	4	10		1090

APPENDIX B  
DOCUMENTATION OF CONSULTATION



Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street  
P.O. Box 19001  
Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

[www.wisconsinpublicservice.com](http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com)

October 31, 2016

FERC Project No. 1999

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch  
WDNR – FERC Coordinator  
101 S. Webster Street  
GEF 2-7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Ms. Laatsch:

**Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results**

As per the Order Amending Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Plan issued October 23, 2008, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) is submitting the annual purple loosestrife survey results and updates on the *Galerucella species* beetle release sites.

As per the amended plan, purple loosestrife (PL) surveys are conducted annually. On July 5 and August 12, 2016, surveys for PL were conducted at the Wausau Hydroelectric Project. The survey identified a total of twenty (20) PL colonies. No colonies were cut or sprayed to avoid adverse impacts to existing or potential new populations of *Galerucella species* beetles. Each colony was issued a number and mapped. Plant vigor information was recorded for each colony. In 2016, approximately 3,000 beetles were released in two different locations to supplement existing beetle populations. The 2016 PL figure and spreadsheet showing colony locations, beetle release locations, and plant vigor survey are included in Appendix A.

The review of data shows that the beetle populations are still not present in all areas of the reservoir and WPS proposes to continue monitoring for PL and releasing a minimum of 2,000 beetles in at least two separate locations as a biological control method in an attempt to establish healthy beetle populations throughout the Project.

Please provide any comments you may have regarding this report within 30 days. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 920-433-5558 or [JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com](mailto:JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com).

Sincerely,

Jessica Roloff  
Environmental Consultant

Enc: Appendix A

## **APPENDIX B**

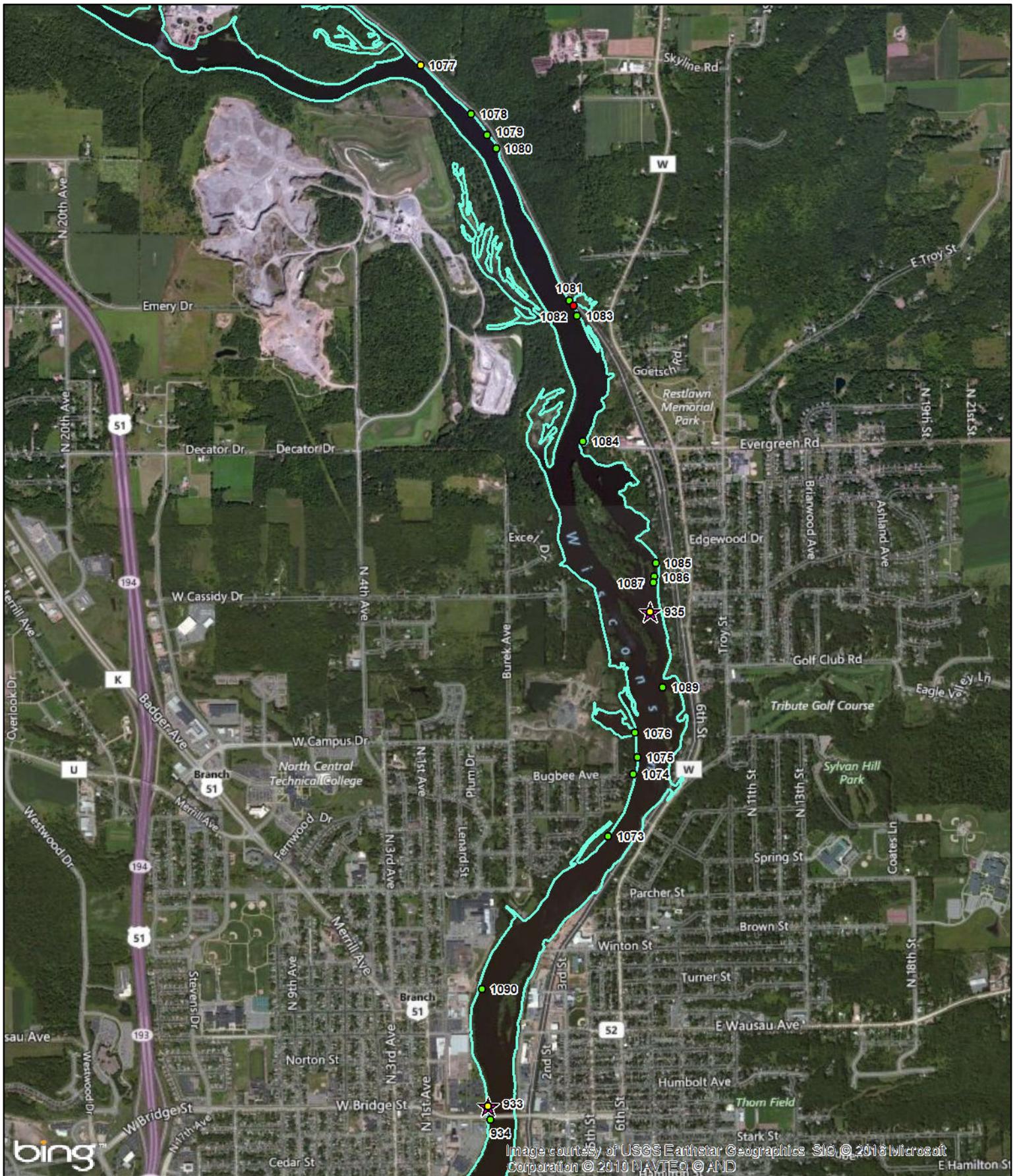
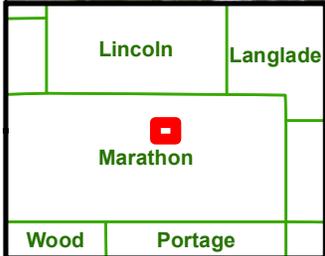
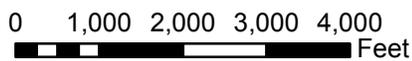


Image courtesy of USGS Earthstar Geographics S16, © 2015 Microsoft Corporation © 2010 NAVTEQ © AND



## 2016 Wausau Purple Loosestrife Survey



Date: 10/24/2016

- Project Boundary
- Purple Loosestrife-2016**
- 0-5 Plants
- 6-50 Plants
- >50 Plants
- ★ Beetle Release Site

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Inspection date: 7/14/2016 & 8/12/2016

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1085	S	3	3	3	9		1085
1086	S	3	2	2	7		1086
1087	S	3	4	4	11		1087
1089	S	3	4	4	11		1089
1090	S	3	3	4	10		1090

**WDNR COMMENTS**

## Roloff, Jessica R

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**From:** Nuthals, James D  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 1:13 PM  
**To:** Roloff, Jessica R  
**Subject:** FW: Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

FYI

### James Nuthals

Environmental Consultant- Natural Resource Management  
office: 920-433-1460  
mobile: 920-309-0741

---

**From:** Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR [mailto:Cheryl.Laatsch@wisconsin.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 02, 2016 10:33 AM  
**To:** Nuthals, James D  
**Subject:** FW: Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

**WARNING:** This email was sent from an external address. Exercise caution when opening links or attachments. Please see the two sets of comments below.

**We are committed to service excellence.**

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

### Cheryl Laatsch

Statewide FERC Coordinator – Watershed Bureau  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
N7225 Highway 28, Horicon WI 53032  
Phone: 920-387-7869  
Fax: 920-387-7888  
[Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov)



[dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)



---

**From:** Lepsch, Jodi A - DNR  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 02, 2016 8:34 AM  
**To:** Provost, Scott M - DNR  
**Cc:** Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR  
**Subject:** RE: Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

I would suggest also releasing beetles at point 1082 as that is a large PL stand with good plant vigor. Lots of good resource to get the beetle population going.

**We are committed to service excellence.**

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

### Jodi Lepsch

Phone: (715) 838-8385

[Jodi.Lepsch@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Jodi.Lepsch@Wisconsin.gov)

---

**From:** Provost, Scott M - DNR  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2016 2:11 PM  
**To:** Lepsch, Jodi A - DNR  
**Cc:** Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR  
**Subject:** FW: Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

Next year they should stock on the upper end near 1078-1080. The beetles may benefit by downstream movement.

Jodi?

Scott

---

**From:** Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR  
**Sent:** Monday, October 31, 2016 1:31 PM  
**To:** Provost, Scott M - DNR  
**Subject:** FW: Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

Hi Scott – Here is an AIS report for Wausau. I believe this is your area...if not, please let me know who the staff person is. Please provide comments by Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. thanks

**We are committed to service excellence.**

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

### Cheryl Laatsch

Statewide FERC Coordinator – Watershed Bureau  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
N7225 Highway 28, Horicon WI 53032  
Phone: 920-387-7869  
Fax: 920-387-7888  
[Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov)



---

**From:** Roloff, Jessica R [<mailto:JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 31, 2016 1:25 PM  
**To:** Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR  
**Subject:** Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results

Good Afternoon Ms. Laatsch,

As per the Order Amending Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Plan issued October 23, 2008, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation is submitting the annual purple loosestrife survey results and updates on the *Galerucella species* beetle release sites for your review and comment. Please see attached.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

**Jes Roloff**  
Environmental Consultant

WEC Energy Group – Business Services

office : 920-433-5558

fax : 920-433-1176

email: [JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com](mailto:JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com)

*Serving WEC Energy Group, We Energies, Wisconsin Public Service, Michigan Gas Utilities, Minnesota Energy Resources, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas.*

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**WDNR COMMENT:**

Next year they should stock on the upper end near 1078-1080. The beetles may benefit by downstream movement.

**WPS RESPONSE:**

WPS will release beetles between waypoints 1078 – 1080 (see attached figure for locations) in 2017.

**WDNR COMMENT:**

I would suggest also releasing beetles at point 1082 as that is a large PL stand with good plant vigor. Lots of good resource to get the beetle population going

**WPS RESPONSE:**

WPS will release beetles at waypoint 1082 (see attached figure for location) in 2017.



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October 31, 2016

FERC Project No. 1999

Mr. Nick Utrup  
USFWS Ecological Services Field Office  
4101 American Boulevard, East  
Bloomington, MN 55425

Dear Mr. Utrup:

**Wausau Hydroelectric Project – 2016 Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Results**

As per the Order Amending Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Plan issued October 23, 2008, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) is submitting the annual purple loosestrife survey results and updates on the *Galerucella species* beetle release sites.

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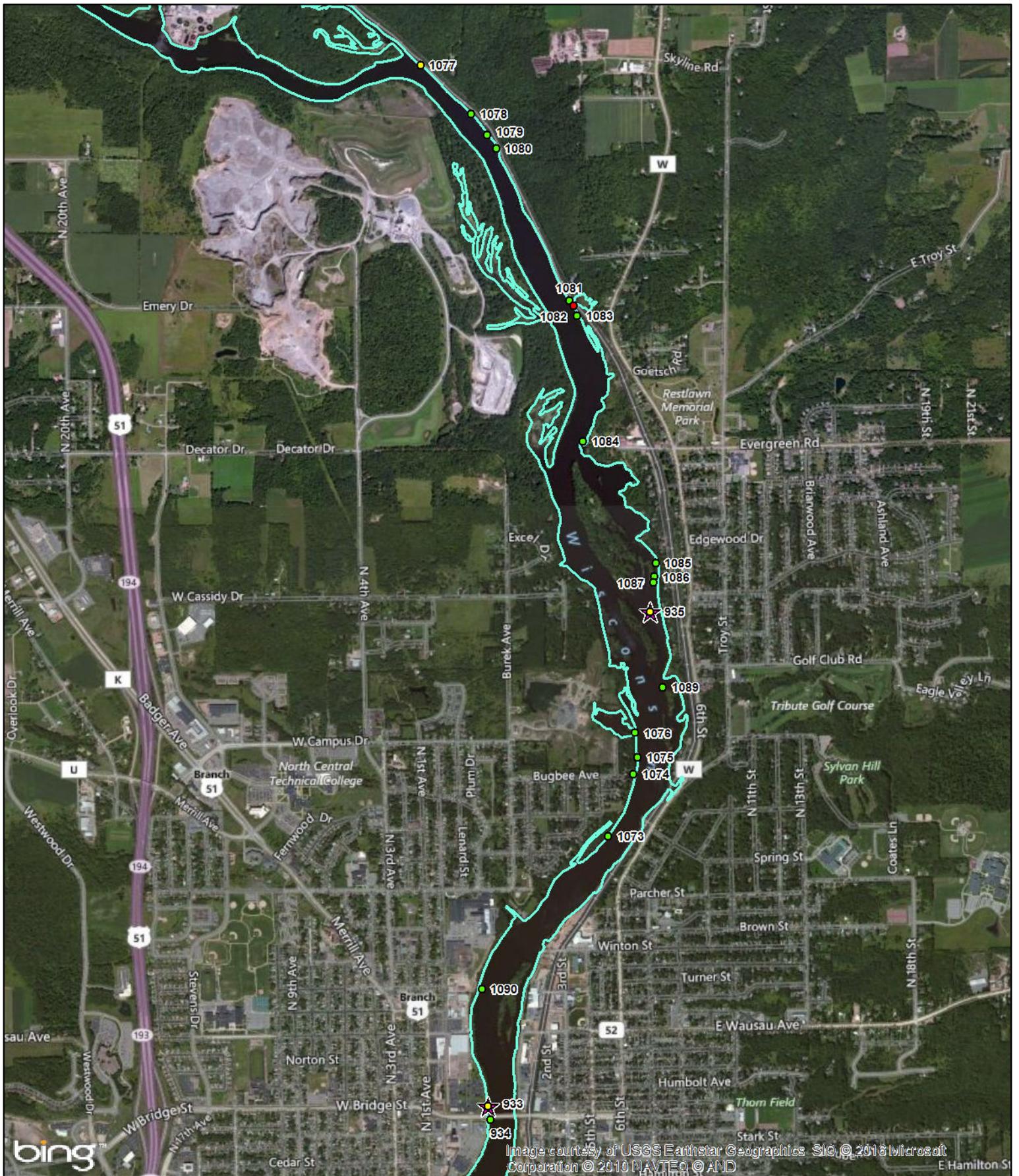
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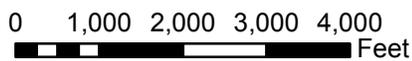
Jessica Roloff  
Environmental Consultant

Enc: Appendix A

## **APPENDIX B**



## 2016 Wausau Purple Loosestrife Survey



Date: 10/24/2016

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1089	S	3	4	4	11		1089
1090	S	3	3	4	10		1090

**NO COMMENTS RECEIVED BY THE US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**