

January 30, 2018

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

RE: Flambeau Upper FERC Project Number 2640

Flambeau Hydro LLC

Final Report 2017 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 2017 Purple Loosestrife Inventory Report* for the Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project. The report is a requirement of Flambeau's Federal license pursuant to article 412. Monitoring was conducted on August 28, 2017. No out of the ordinary issues were encountered. Purple Loosestrife was observed on the Power Canal/Bypassed Reach at one site. As with last year, one Purple Loosestrife plant was observed, pulled and disposed of in an approved manner. The draft report was sent to the agencies by an attachment to an e-mail on November 16, 2017 for review and comment. No comments have been received from the WDNR. No comments have been received from the USFWS. The next scheduled monitoring event will be conducted in 2018.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact Brian Kreuscher at the Renewable World Energies, LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 Ext 230. He can also be reached by e-mail at <a href="mailto:bkreuscher@rwehydro.com">bkreuscher@rwehydro.com</a>.



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Sincerely, Renewable World Energies, LLC Agent for Licensee

Con

Mr. Jason Kreuscher Vice President

Attachment: Flambeau Upper Final Purple Loosestrife Inventory Report

Cc: Ms. Cheryl Laatsch, WDNR Mr. Nick Utrup, USFWS

RWE, Corporate

# for Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project FERC Project #2640 Flambeau Hydro, LLC Price County, Wisconsin





429 River Lane, P.O. Box 27 Amasa, Michigan 49903 Phone: 906-822-7889

### Summary of Purple Loosestrife Inventory for Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project, FERC #2640

On August 28, 2017, White Water Associates, Inc. performed an inventory of purple loosestrife at the Flambeau Upper Project. The method of inventory approved and modified by a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order (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 Flambeau Hydro, LLC (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 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.

#### **2017 Observations**

The Flambeau Upper Project boundary was divided into three different areas; *the impoundment* (from just downstream to the last rapids before the impoundment to the dam), *the power canal/bypassed reach* (the power canal from the dam to the powerhouse, and the bypassed reach area from the dam to the single lane service bridge just upstream of the HWY 182 bridge), and *the tailrace* (from the single lane service bridge just upstream of the HYW 182 bridge to the HWY 182 bridge).

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

The power canal/bypassed reach was surveyed on foot and one purple loosestrife plant was found. This plant was removed.

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

A map of purple loosestrife locations is available in Appendix A. Appendix B provides tables of historical purple loosestrife data as well as observations made in 2017. Appendix C provides scans of field data sheets.

## Appendix A Map



Map 1. Locations of purple loosestrife at Flambeau Upper observed in 2017.

## Appendix B Table

Table 1. GPS points for purple loosestrife inventory at Flambeau Upper, FERC#2640.							
GPS Point	Latitude	Longitude	Plant Height	Stand Area	Comments		
FLUPPL001	45.94678	-90.43405	N/A	N/A	2002-first observed. 15-25 plants. 2003-discovered plants were not purple loosestrife but winged loosestrife. 2004-plants removed. 2007-reoccurance of plants. 2008-2015- no plants observed. 2016-no plants observed. 2017-no plants observed.		
FLUPPL002	45.93593	-90.44344	N/A	N/A	2006-first observed. 2007-plants observed. 2008-2015-no plants observed. 2016-no plants observed. 2017-no plants observed.		
FLUPPL003 (FLUP PLA)	45.93397	-90.44525	3'	1'x1'	2016-first observed. 1 plant was observed and pulled 2017-1 plant observed and removed.		

## **Appendix C Scans of Datasheets**

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Purple Loosestrife Survey								
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Other Species Observed:

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Plant Removed (explain)

#### **Brian Kreuscher**

**From:** Brian Kreuscher

Sent: Thursday, November 16, 2017 10:45 AM

**To:** Cheryl Laatsch; Nick Utrup

**Subject:** Crowley (P-2473) Pixley (P-2395) Upper (P-2640) Lower (P-2421) 2017 Purple Loosestrife Draft

Reports

**Attachments:** Crowley PL Draft Report 2017-Complete.pdf; Lower Flambeau PL Draft Report 2017-Complete.pdf;

Pixley PL Draft Report 2017-Complete.pdf; Upper Flambeau PL Draft Report 2017-Complete.pdf; Grantsburg High School Purple Loosestrife Beetle Release on Clam Flowage\_Clam River Delta 7 5

17.pdf

#### Cheryl and Nick,

Attached are copies of the Purple Loosestrife Draft Reports for the surveys conducted at Flambeau Upper (P-2640), Flambeau Lower (P-2421), Flambeau Pixley (P-2395) and Flambeau Crowley (P-2473). Danbury (P-9184) and Clam River (P-9185) did not require a Survey in Odd years. Clam River did have approximately 6,000 Galerucella Beetles released by the Grantsburg High School. I have attached the report that Science teacher Matt Berg wrote.

Please return any comments on the draft reports to me within 30 days.

Thanks
Brian Kreuscher
Renewable World Energies
Regulatory & Compliance
855-994-9376 x230