

Notice: Use of this form is required by the DNR for any application filed pursuant to ch. NR 198, Wis. Adm. Code. Personal information collected on this form, including such data as your name, address, phone number, etc., will be used for management and enforcement of DNR programs, and is not intended to be used for any other purpose. Information may be made accessible to requesters under Wisconsin's Open Records laws (s. 19.32-19.39, Wis. Stats.) and requirements.

Section I: Application Type

Check one:

- Education, Prevention & Planning Early Detection & Response Established Infestation Control

Legislative District Numbers		To determine your legislative district, go to http://165.189.139.210/WAML/ Type in complete address, next screen shows information.
Senate	Assembly	
32	95	

Section II: Applicant Information

Applicant River Alliance of Wisconsin			Type of Eligible Applicants		
Waterbody Name Mississippi River and Others			<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Gov't Unit
Project County/Township/Section/Range Buffalo, Trempealeau, and La Crosse Counties			<input type="checkbox"/> City	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Dist.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit Org.
			<input type="checkbox"/> Village	<input type="checkbox"/> Dist.	<input type="checkbox"/> College, School, etc.
			<input type="checkbox"/> Town	<input type="checkbox"/> Assoc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal
			<input type="checkbox"/> State		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Authorized Representative Named by Resolution Denny Caneff			Project Contact Name Laura MacFarland		
Authorized Representative Title Executive Director			Project Contact Title Invasive Species Program Director		
Address 306 E. Wilson Street, Suite 2W			Address 306 E. Wilson Street, Suite 2W		
City Madison	State WI	ZIP Code 53703	City Madison	State WI	ZIP Code 53703
Daytime Phone (area code) (608) 257-2424	Evening Phone (area code)		Daytime Phone (area code) (608) 257-2424	Evening Phone (area code)	
E-mail Address dcaneff@wisconsinrivers.org			E-Mail Address lmacfarland@wisconsinrivers.org		

Mail Check to: (if different from applicant)

Name and Title Sharon White, Assistant Director		Address 306 E. Wilson Street, Suite 2W	
Organization River Alliance of Wisconsin		City Madison	State WI
		ZIP Code 53703	

For DNR Use Only

Application Type	Date Received 8/1/15	Date Reviewed (AIS/LC/RC)	AIS/Lake /River Coordinator Approval /Date
Waterbody ID#	Adequate Public Access <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Environmental Grants Specialist Approval / Date	
Eligible Project <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Eligible Applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Project Priority Rank	Research / Demo Project <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Prior Grant Award(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fiscal Year(s)	Amount Received To Date \$	Project Awarded <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Grant Application

Form 8700-307 (12/11)

Section III: Project Information

Project Title Buffalo, Trempealeau, La Crosse AIS Partnership	Proposed Ending Date 12/31/15
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Other Management Units	Letter of Support	Other Management Units	Letter of Support
1. La Crosse County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. United States Fish and Wildlife Service	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Buffalo County	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Trempealeau County	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section IV: Public Access

Number of Public Vehicle Trailer Parking Spaces Available at Public Access Sites: _____

Number of Public Access Sites Including Boat Launches and Walk-ins: 43

Section V: Cost Estimate and Grant Request

Section V must be completed or application will be returned. Details in support of Section V are welcome.	Project Costs		
	Column 1 Cash Costs	Column 2 Donated Value	DNR Use Only
1. Salaries, wages and employee benefits	129,600.00	17,680.00	
2. Consulting services		20,000.00	
3. Purchased services--printing and mailing	4,500.00		
4. Other purchased services (specify):			
5. Plant material			
6. Supplies (specify)	12,000.00		
7. Depreciation on equipment			
8. Hourly equipment use charges		4,000.00	
9. State Lab of Hygiene (SLOH) Costs			
10. Non-SLOH Lab Costs			
11. Other (specify)		10,000.00	
12. Subtotals (sum each column)	146,100.00	51,680.00	
13. Total Project Cost Estimate (sum of column 1 plus sum of column 2)	197,780.00		
14. State Share Requested (up to 75% of total costs may be requested)	148,335.00		

Subject to the following maximum grant amounts:

- Education, Prevention and Planning Projects--up to \$150,000
- Early Detection and Response Projects--up to \$20,000
- Established Infestation Control Projects--up to \$200,000

Use of Federal funding as match: (check box below if applicable)

We are using or planning to apply for Federal funds to be used as match.

If known, indicate source of funding: USFWS, USGS, National Park Service staff time

Section VI: Attachments (check all that are included)

A. For all applicants: (Refer to instructions for applicability.)

- 1. Authorizing resolution
- 2. Letters of support
- 3. Map of project location and boundaries
- 4. Lake map or river segment with public access sites identified (per Section IV of this application and page 20 of the guidelines)
- 5. Itemized breakdown of expenses
- 6. For projects that entail sending samples to the State Laboratory of Hygiene (SLOH) only: a completed SLOH Projected Cost Form
- 7. Project scope/description:
 - a. Description of project area
 - b. Description of problem to be addressed by project
 - c. Discussion of project goals and objectives
 - d. Description of methods and activities
 - e. Description of project products or deliverables
 - f. Description of data to be collected, if applicable
 - g. Description of existing and proposed partnerships
 - h. Discussion of role of project in planning and/or management of lake
 - i. Timetable for implementation of key activities
 - j. Plan for sharing project results
 - k. Other information in support of project not described above

B. For applicants that are Lake Management Organizations (LMOs), River Management Organizations (RMOs) or Qualified Non-profit Organizations:

- 1. For first time applicant LMOs/RMOs only: A completed Form 8700-226 (Lake Association Organizational Application) or 8700-287 (River Management Organization Application)
- 2. For first time applicant Qualified Nonprofit Organizations only: Copy of IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter and copies of your Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
- 3. List of national and/or statewide organizations with which you are affiliated
- 4. List of board members' names, including municipality and county of residence. Designate officers
- 5. Documentation of current financial status
- 6. Brochures, newsletters, annual reports or other information about your organization

C. Education, Prevention and Planning Projects: (No additional attachments required.)

D. Early Detection and Response Projects:

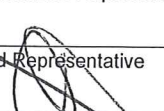
- 1. APM Permit application

E. Established Infestation Control Projects:

- 1. Management Plan
- 2. APM Permit application

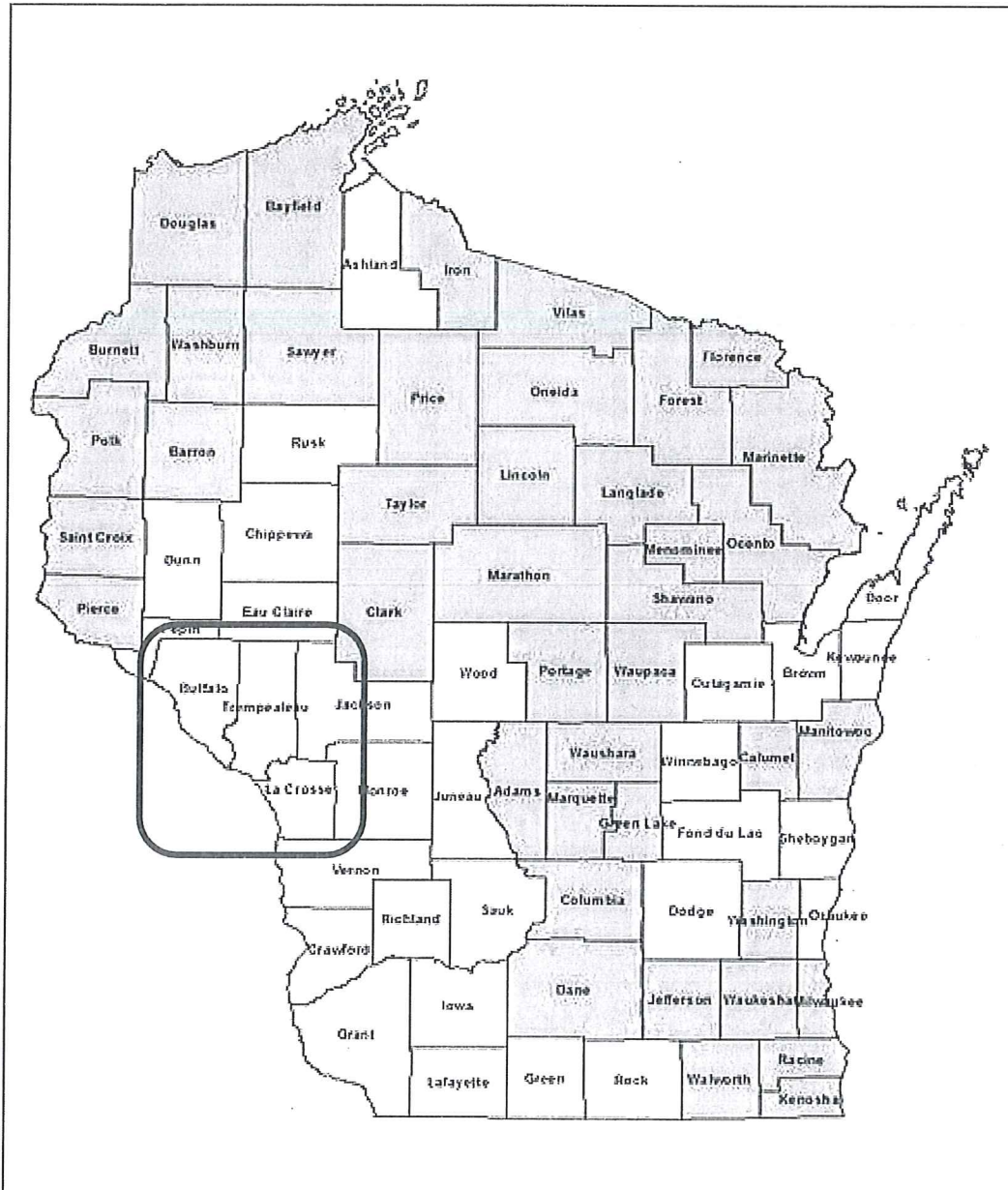
Section VII: Certification

I certify that information in this application and all its attachments are true and correct and in conformity with applicable Wis. Statutes.

Print/Type Name of Authorized Representative Denny Caneff	Title of Authorized Representative Executive Director
Signature of Authorized Representative 	Date Signed 7/30/13

Appendix A: La Crosse Area AIS Partnership Map

Buffalo, Trempealeau and La Crosse Counties



Blue counties received funding in 2013 from the Wisconsin DNR AIS Grants program. Historically there has been a lack of AIS projects in the Mississippi River corridor. Buffalo and Trempealeau Counties have not had an AIS coordinator. La Crosse County has shared one coordinator with eight other counties for the last two years.

Title: La Crosse Area Partnership Coordinator

Proposal: As potential source of aquatic invasive species to Wisconsin tributaries and beyond, the Mississippi River requires focused attention by agencies and groups concerned with how and to what extent these aquatic invaders will damage our rivers. To that end, several entities in southwestern Wisconsin have come together to form the La Crosse Area AIS Partnership; this new partnership wants to:

- coordinate public outreach to target audiences
- bridge the information gap between scientists and the public
- coordinate citizen, university and agency AIS monitoring efforts to improve efficiency and data sharing
- identify priorities for AIS management given limited resources
- raise the general awareness of the Mississippi River and its invasive species, regionally and perhaps nationally.

The Partnership seeks an Aquatic Invasive Species Education, Prevention, and Planning grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to hire a coordinator to serve the partnership in carrying out these tasks.

Project Area Description: The scope of this project is Buffalo, Trempealeau and La Crosse counties in their entirety, with an increased focus on the Upper Mississippi River and its major tributaries up to the first dam. This project is intended to be a pilot to gain greater understanding of how we may be effective at containing or controlling aquatic invasive species within a large river system. *Appendix A: La Crosse County Partnership Map.*

Problem: The Mississippi River has been labeled a super spreader, a priority of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for increased efforts to contain aquatic invasive species. Five prohibited aquatic invasive species (Asian carp, quagga mussels, water lettuce, hyacinth, and parrot feather) have been documented in the Upper Mississippi River between its confluences with the Chippewa River and the La Crosse River. A rapid response effort continues in Pool 5 to eradicate water lettuce, hyacinth, and parrot feather discovered here in 2011. These invaders have not been documented in inland waters of Wisconsin. In addition to the above mentioned five prohibited species, the Mississippi River is home to many other invaders including zebra mussels, faucet snails, and Eurasian watermilfoil. The Mississippi River being connected hydrologically to both the Gulf of Mexico and the Great Lakes is particularly vulnerable to invasion of new species. *Appendix B: Documented Aquatic Invasive Species in the Upper Mississippi River*

According to the USFWS Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan, invasive species are the “greatest threat to ecosystem integrity within the refuge system. Zebra mussels pose a great threat to native mussels, such as the Higgins eye pearl mussel whose abundance has drastically declined since the arrival of zebra mussels. Asian Carp through competition threaten the native paddlefish, buffalo fish and gizzard shad. Invasive plants, both terrestrial and aquatic are severely impacting native ecosystems as well. Purple loosestrife has invaded thousands of acres within the refuge decreasing species

diversity and affecting local wildlife populations. These are just a few examples of the impact invasive species are having along the Mississippi River.

Another factor that qualifies the Upper Mississippi River as a Super-Spreader is the amount of use this area receives by potential vectors (anglers, boater, hunters, etc.) . The Upper Mississippi River refuge which the project area makes up approximately 1/3 of, receives over 1 million fishermen a year. Between June and October 2013 there will be 19 bass tournaments alone from Trempealeau to La Crosse County (Pools 4 – 8). Waterfowl hunting is also a popular activity in this area with approximately 240,000 waterfowl hunter days estimated within the refuge annually.

According to the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan there are over 55 landings in the project area, including private harbors. The Mississippi River receives heavy use by anglers, pleasure boaters, and hunters. The refuge also provides significant alternative public access and use opportunities that public swimming beaches, parks, public fishing piers and wildlife observation area. Refer to *Appendix C: Maps of Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge*.

Goals, Objectives, Methods, and Deliverables

Goal 1: Establish and maintain La Crosse Area AIS Partnership

- Objective 1a. Serve as a forum to coordinate AIS activities within the area; strengthening partnership and increasing lines of communication
 - Method: The coordinator will be responsible for maintaining an open dialogue amongst partners and facilitating opportunities to partner. The coordinator will report to the River Alliance of Wisconsin's AIS Program Director who will oversee the duties of the coordinator. Any major deviation from the duties outlined in this proposal, must be approved by the Partnership, including the River Alliance of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin DNR's regional grants manager.
- Objective 1b. Establish a steering committee which meets quarterly
 - Method: A MOU has been signed by partners, each agreeing to designate a representative to serve on the steering committee. Partners will be continuously sought by the coordinator as relationships are developed through outreach activities to potential partners Refer to *Appendix D: La Crosse Area AIS Partnership Memorandum of Understanding*. The complete list of partners who have already signed is below.
- Objective 1c. Host annual public workshop
 - Method: Coordinator and steering committee will host a meeting for provide project updates and offer opportunity for public participation and also addition of other MOU signatories

Deliverables:

- Ongoing participation by multi-stakeholder group in AIS management in the La Crosse Area
- Recruitment of at least four additional partners
- Annual public workshop

Goal 2: Increase outreach to target audiences

- Objective 2a. Implement the Bait Dealer Initiative utilizing the WDNR Bait Dealer Toolkit
 - Method: The coordinator with the support of partners inventory bait dealers; make an initial contact to educate all bait dealers the importance of preventing, containing, and controlling aquatic and to distribute educational displays; and revisit receptive shops to restock materials
- Objective 2b. Participate in the Landing Blitz coordinated by the WDNR
 - Method: The coordinator will work with local CBCW volunteers, including UW-La Crosse students, to conduct watercraft inspections at priority landings on the Mississippi River during the 2014 Landing Blitz. To date no one has participated in a Landing Blitz on the Mississippi River.
- Objective 2c. Install new State AIS signs (rev.2010) and Asian Carp Watch signs at boat landings as needed
 - Method: The local coordinator will assist the WDNR in inventorying boat landings and posting/reposting AIS signage where needed. The coordinator will post Asian Carp Watch signs developed by the River Alliance in coordination with the WDNR (currently in draft form) on major tributaries to the Mississippi River.
- Objective 2d. Increase AIS outreach to tournament anglers
 - Method: UW SeaGrant has already had a presence on the Upper Mississippi River at the major tournaments, such as the Masters Walleye and Bass Federation. The local coordinator will assist to increase outreach to other tournament circuits UW SeaGrant is not currently working with using the tools that have already been created and tested. The coordinator will also rent and operate a high pressure washer to use at landings during tournaments as suggested by UW Sea Grant.
- Objective 2e. Establishing enforcement partnerships with local law enforcement
 - Method: The coordinator will work to increase the AIS aptitude of local law enforcement, if there is sufficient interest on their behalf. This will be primarily accomplished through a organized group check involving local law enforcement

- Objective 2f. Increase watercraft inspection at landings, complementing the effort of the local water guard
 - Method: The coordinator will seek partners to participate in the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program, provide training opportunities and assist with implementation
 - Method: Hire and manage two interns to conduct 400 hours of watercraft inspection

Deliverables:

- A minimum of 10 Bait Dealers contacted
- Landing Blitz Participation
- AIS Landing Signs at All Major Landings
- 20 Asian Carp Watch signs posted
- AIS Outreach at 3 fishing tournaments annually
- At least 1 Group Check involving local law enforcement
- At least 400 hours of watercraft inspection
- At least 2 Clean Boats, Clean Waters Training

Goal 3: Expand Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring

- Objective 3a. Increase volunteer monitoring efforts on major tributaries to the Mississippi River.
 - Method: Recruit and train Project RED volunteers to assist in monitoring major tributaries below first dam for invasive species of interest
- Objective 3b. Coordinate citizen, University and agency monitoring efforts to encourage efficiency and data sharing (ex. standardized protocols)
 - Method: Facilitate communication between UW- La Crosse River Studies Center and agency staff through Partnership meetings and outreach.
 - Method: The coordinator and advanced volunteers will assist the Wisconsin DNR conduct monitoring when needed and assist with the UMRCC Vegetation committee's aquatic vegetation surveys on the UMR, if feasible.
- Objective 3c. Increase volunteer monitoring at boat landings on the Mississippi River
 - Method: Train Clean Boats, Clean Water participants how to monitor for aquatic invasive species a boat landings

Deliverables:

- At least 2 Project RED Trainings
- At least 2 boat landing monitoring training in conjunction with CBCW training
- Increased aquatic invasive species data into SWIMS

Goal 4: Develop an AIS Strategic Plan for the Mississippi River within the area of focus in collaboration with partners

- Objective 4a. Assess the effectiveness of previous outreach efforts (Goal 2) to determine future priorities
 - Method: All outreach efforts outlined in Goal 2, will be assessed based upon the number of contacts made per hours spent (volunteer and paid). The coordinator will also work with WDNR staff to determine other means of measuring success when it comes to these established statewide programs.
- Objective 4b. Determine priority boat launches for watercraft inspection and decontamination units.
 - Method: The Coordinator , in coordination with the WDNR water guard and CBCW volunteers, to identify at which of the approximate 50 boat landings watercraft inspections and decontamination units would be most effective and feasible based upon use and suitability
- Objective 4c. Identify gaps in AIS monitoring and research within the area of focus?
 - Method: The coordinator and the River Alliance AIS Program Director will assist the partnership steering committee in identifying future goals and objectives relative to AIS management in the area of focus.
- Objective 4d. Identify future goals and objectives
 - Method: The coordinator and the River Alliance AIS Program Director will assist the partnership steering committee in identifying future goals and objectives relative to AIS management in the area of focus.
- Objective 4e. Identify resources available to fulfill priorities
 - Method: The coordinator and the River Alliance AIS Program Director will work with the partnership steering committee to identify future goals and objectives relative to AIS management in the area of focus.

Deliverable:

- Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan for the Mississippi River and Major Tributaries in Buffalo, Trempealeau and La Crosse Counties

Sharing Project Results: The River Alliance of Wisconsin will submit a quarterly report and request for reimbursement from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. All applicable data (signage, watercraft inspections, and monitoring) will be entered into SWIMS. The Partnership will host a public workshop annually. The Wisconsin DNR and all partners will receive a hardcopy of the final report, as well as the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan will be made available on the River Alliance of Wisconsin website in a similar fashion to the Lower Wisconsin River AIS Strategic Plan (<https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/conservation-projects/lower-wi-ais-plan>).

Itemized Budget:

Item	Request	Match
La Crosse Coordinator Salary	100,000	
River Alliance Staff Salary and Benefits	20,000	10,000
Watercraft Inspection Interns (\$12/hr * 20 hr/wk * 20 wks * 2 interns)	9,600	
Printing	2,500	
Travel (~3500 miles)	2,000	
Communications	2,000	
Supplies	10,000	
Project RED Volunteers		4,800
CBCW Volunteers		2,880
Equipment (boats)		4,000
Overhead (only eligible for grant funding if donated by another organization)		10,000
Technical Advisors (\$2500/~50 hours per non-state funded technical advisor)		20,000
TOTALS:	146,100	51,680

Timeline: January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2015. Refer to *Appendix E: Project Timeline* for specifics.

Current Partners:

- Friends of the Black River
- Friends of Pool 2
- La Crosse County
- Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development*
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United State Geological Survey*
- University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources*
- Wisconsin Lakes

* Partners who have already signed the MOU

Potential Partners:

- Brice Prairie Conservation Association
- Buffalo County
- Commercial Navigation Industry Representatives
- La Crosse Sailing Club
- La Crosse County Conservation Alliance
- Lower Chippewa River Alliance
- Trempealeau County
- Trout Unlimited - Wisconsin Clear Waters
- Trout Unlimited - Coulee Region
- Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee
- Wisconsin Bowfishing Association
- Wisconsin Waterfowl Association – La Crosse Chapter
- Wisconsin Waterfowl Association – Duckweed/Fountain City Chapter
- Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Existing plans or management efforts for the waterbody:

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan, pages 68 - 72; 113 – 114.

<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/planning/uppermiss/index.html> (accessed 6/25/2013)

Strategic and Operational Plan for the Long Term Resource Monitoring Program on the Upper Mississippi River System, Fiscal Years 2010-2014.

http://www.umesc.usgs.gov/ltrmp/ateam/strategic_operational_plan_final_30june2009.pdf
(accessed 7/1/2013)

Action Plan to Minimize Ecological Impacts of Aquatic Invasive Species in the Mississippi River Basin.

http://micrarivers.org/images/stories/AIS_Action_Plan/MICRA_AIS_Action_Plan.pdf (accessed 7/19/2013)

Asian Carp Action Plan. <http://www.nps.gov/sacn/naturescience/upload/Asian-Carp-action-plan-11-2-2011-Final.pdf> (accessed 7/19/2013)

Previous Success:

The River Alliance of Wisconsin has a longstanding relationship with the Wisconsin DNR through the Aquatic Invasive Species grants program. We have successfully implemented four

Educational, Planning and Prevention grants proposals (AEPP-164-08, AEPP-182-09, AEPP-247-10, AEPP-295-11). Our accomplishments include,

- Establishing Project RED, the only statewide effort to inventory AIS in rivers and streams
- Training Wisconsin DNR Watershed Biologist how to identify and report AIS
- Engaging over 20 river and watershed organizations in monitoring their home rivers for AIS
- Documenting 100s of new locations of AIS within river corridors statewide
- Providing technical and grant writing assistance to local groups for both EPP and RR grants
- Posting 100s of AIS signs educating wading anglers and paddlers about AIS and the prevention steps
- Coordinating Clean Boats, Clean Waters efforts on large rivers
- Producing riverine species handouts and outreach material in partnership with the Wisconsin DNR (New Zealand mudnail, Didymo, Riverine and Wetland Invasive Species, Asian Carp Watch signs)
- Hosting the Wisconsin Asian Carp Summit

Most relevant to this proposal, the River Alliance successfully organized and facilitated a technical advisory committee consisting of federal, state, and local partners to develop and implement The Lower Wisconsin River Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan (<https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/conservation-projects/lower-wi-ais-plan>). Today this plan is serving as a model and inspiration for other partners who are working to address the issue of aquatic invasive species at a watershed scale, including Southwest Badger RC&D and the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association.

Appendices:

- A. La Crosse Area AIS Partnership Map
- B. Documented Aquatic Invasive Species in the Upper Mississippi River
- C. Maps of Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
- D. La Crosse Area AIS Partnership Memorandum of Understanding
- E. Project Timeline
- F. Letters of Support
- G. Authorizing Resolution from the River Alliance of Wisconsin
- H. River Alliance Board Members with Affiliations
- I. Organization Affiliations
- J. Documentation of Current Financial Status
- K. River Alliance Brochure and Newsletter (hard copy only)

Appendix B: Documented Aquatic Invasive Species in the Upper Mississippi River

Common Name	Scientific Name	NR 40 Category	Source
bighead carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>	Prohibited	USGS
grass carp	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>	Prohibited	USGS
parrot feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Prohibited	WDNR
quagga mussels	<i>Dreissena rostriformis bugensis</i>	Prohibited	USGS
silver carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>	Prohibited	USGS
water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Prohibited (Proposed)	WDNR
water lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Prohibited (Proposed)	WDNR
Asian clam	<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	Restricted	USGS
common reed	<i>Phragmites australis australis</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps
curlyleaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps, WDNR
damesrocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps, WDNR
faucet snail	<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i>	Restricted	USGS
Japanese knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps
narrowleaf cattail	<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps
purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps
true forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	Restricted	EDDmaps
zebra mussels	<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	Restricted	USGS, WDNR

Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant

Resolution # 2013-8

RESOLUTION OF River Alliance of Wisconsin, County of Dane

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River and its tributaries are important resources used by the public for recreation and enjoyment of natural beauty; and

WHEREAS, public use and enjoyment of the Mississippi River is best served by protection from infestation of aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need to provide information or education about aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, we are qualified to carry out the responsibilities of an aquatic invasive species control project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the River Alliance of Wisconsin requests grant funding and assistance available from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under the "Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program" and hereby authorizes the executive director to act on behalf of the River Alliance of Wisconsin to:

- submit an application to the State of Wisconsin for financial aid for aquatic invasive species control purposes;
- sign documents;
- take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete an approved aquatic invasive species control grant; and
- submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six months of project completion date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the River Alliance of Wisconsin will meet the obligations of the aquatic invasive species control project including timely publication of the results and meet the financial obligations of an aquatic invasive species grant, including the prompt payment of our 25% commitment to aquatic invasive species control project costs.

Adopted this day 23rd day of July 2013

By a vote of: 12 in favor — against — abstain

BY: Marcia Kraus
Treasurer



NOTE: Management Unit as defined in s. 281.68, Wisconsin Statutes, or defined in s. 281.70, Wisconsin Statutes, are counties, cities, towns, villages, town sanitary districts, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, qualified lake associations, qualified river management organizations, nonprofit conservation organizations, or other local governmental units established for the purpose of lake management or river management.

The management unit's representative must be indicated by naming a position or a person who is either an official or employee of the management unit. By naming a position instead of a specific person, a new resolution does not have to be submitted to the DNR if there is turnover in the position. A contracted consultant to the sponsor cannot be the authorized representative. The resolution may not pass on grant responsibility to another group or organization.

La Crosse Area Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

River Alliance of Wisconsin

and

Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is hereby entered into among the above parties. Other parties may be added as interest and necessity demand.

A. PURPOSE:

The purpose for forming the La Crosse Area Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership (Partnership) is to address aquatic invasive species within the Upper Mississippi River basin within Buffalo, Trempealeau and La Crosse counties with an increased focus on the Mississippi River corridor. The role of the Partnership will be to develop an Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan to coordinate priorities and actions for preventing, monitoring, containing, and controlling non-native invasive species. This Agreement will be overseen by a steering committee for the Partnership comprised of a chairperson and vice chair selected by the participants of the Partnership and representatives of each of the cooperators signing the agreement. Additional partners may be added.

The signatories will cooperate on public relations, education, and training, as well as for invasive species control and other resource protection that might be agreed upon. The purpose is to foster sound and desirable means of invasive species control and to assist one another under the overall umbrella of the Agreement and in accordance with scheduled meetings and resulting operating plans. The Partnership will also provide a communication forum to keep all parties informed of invasive species control activities.

B. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INTERESTS:

This Agreement will:

Provide a more efficient way of handling, controlling and communicating about the aquatic invasive species problem in the geographic area covered by this agreement.

Pool the knowledge and resources that will help achieve better control of invasive species while improving working relationships with the partners and members of the public served by each.

Educate public and private land managers, landowners, and the general public regarding invasive species.

Continue support and implementation of biological methods of control that will benefit all partners and public in the agreement area.

Identify opportunities for further development and cooperative management projects.

C. AREA COVERED:

The area covered by this agreement includes all of Buffalo, Trempealeau and La Crosse counties with the primary focus being on the Upper Mississippi River and its major tributaries up to the first fish barrier.

D. RIVER ALLIANCE OF WISCONSIN SHALL:

1. River Alliance of Wisconsin, a statewide non-profit river conservation organization, shall facilitate the sharing of resources from federal, state, local, and private sectors to implement invasive management goals and objectives for the Partnership.
2. Assist in establishing and supporting a steering committee consisting of parties to this MOU, as well as other concerned citizens and organizations to coordinate invasive species management activities.
3. Provide administrative support.
4. Provide grant management services should grant funds be received.

E. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY ALL PARTIES THAT:


1. This instrument in no way restricts the parties from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
3. This MOU is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor involving reimbursement, contribution of funds, or transfer of anything of value between the parties to this instrument will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties.
4. Changes within the scope of this instrument shall be made through written modification understood and signed by all parties to this MOU.
5. This instrument is executed as of the last date signed by a signatory of the agreement.
6. Termination: With 30 days written notice, any party may terminate this instrument in whole or part at any time.

F. ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT:

The supporters of this agreement agree that working together in a cooperative, coordinated approach will result in the preservation and enhancement of the natural, economic, and social resources in this area. The parties supporting this agreement understand that this is a nonbinding statement of consensus and intent that recognizes the respective authorities and policies of federal, state, county, local governments, and non-governmental private sector interests. Participants agree to the following:

1. A steering committee be established consisting of a representative from each signing party to implement and monitor the activities under this agreement. The steering committee shall select a chair and vice chair.
2. The committee shall meet quarterly and as needed.
3. It is recognized that each cooperator has primary responsibility to its own governing body and falls under its jurisdiction. It is agreed to provide resources to each other as legal authorities and financial and personnel resources may permit, as identified and agreed to in the annual operating plan.

07/01/13
Date


Authorized Representative

Southwest Badger Resource
Conservation and
Development
Organization Represented



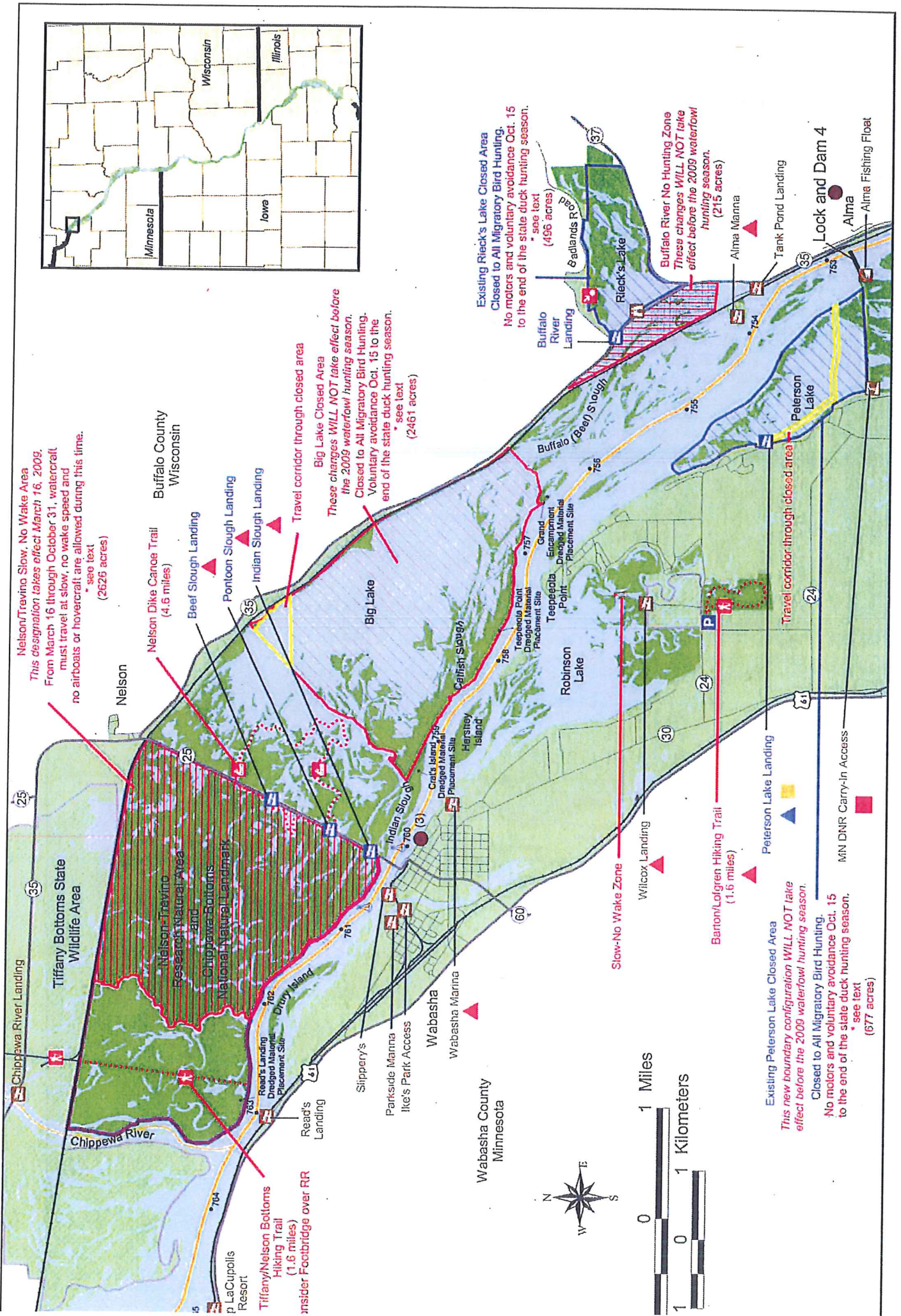
Nelson/Trevino Slow, No Wake Area
 This designation takes effect March 16, 2009.
 From March 16 through October 31, watercraft
 must travel at slow, no wake speed and
 no airboats or hovercraft are allowed during this time.
 * see text
 (2626 acres)

Big Lake Closed Area
 These changes WILL NOT take effect before
 the 2009 waterfowl hunting season.
 Closed to All Migratory Bird Hunting.
 Voluntary avoidance Oct. 15 to the
 end of the state duck hunting season.
 * see text
 (2461 acres)

Existing Rieck's Lake Closed Area
 Closed to All Migratory Bird Hunting.
 No motors and voluntary avoidance Oct. 15
 to the end of the state duck hunting season.
 * see text
 (496 acres)

Buffalo River No Hunting Zone
 These changes WILL NOT take
 effect before the 2009 waterfowl
 hunting season.
 (215 acres)

Existing Peterson Lake Closed Area
 This new boundary configuration WILL NOT take
 effect before the 2009 waterfowl hunting season.
 Closed to All Migratory Bird Hunting.
 No motors and voluntary avoidance Oct. 15
 to the end of the state duck hunting season.
 * see text
 (677 acres)



Travel corridor through closed area

Travel corridor through closed area

Travel corridor through closed area

Lock and Dam 4

Alma
 Alma Fishing Fleet

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

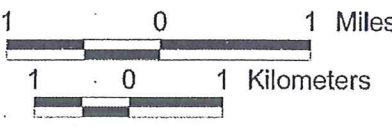
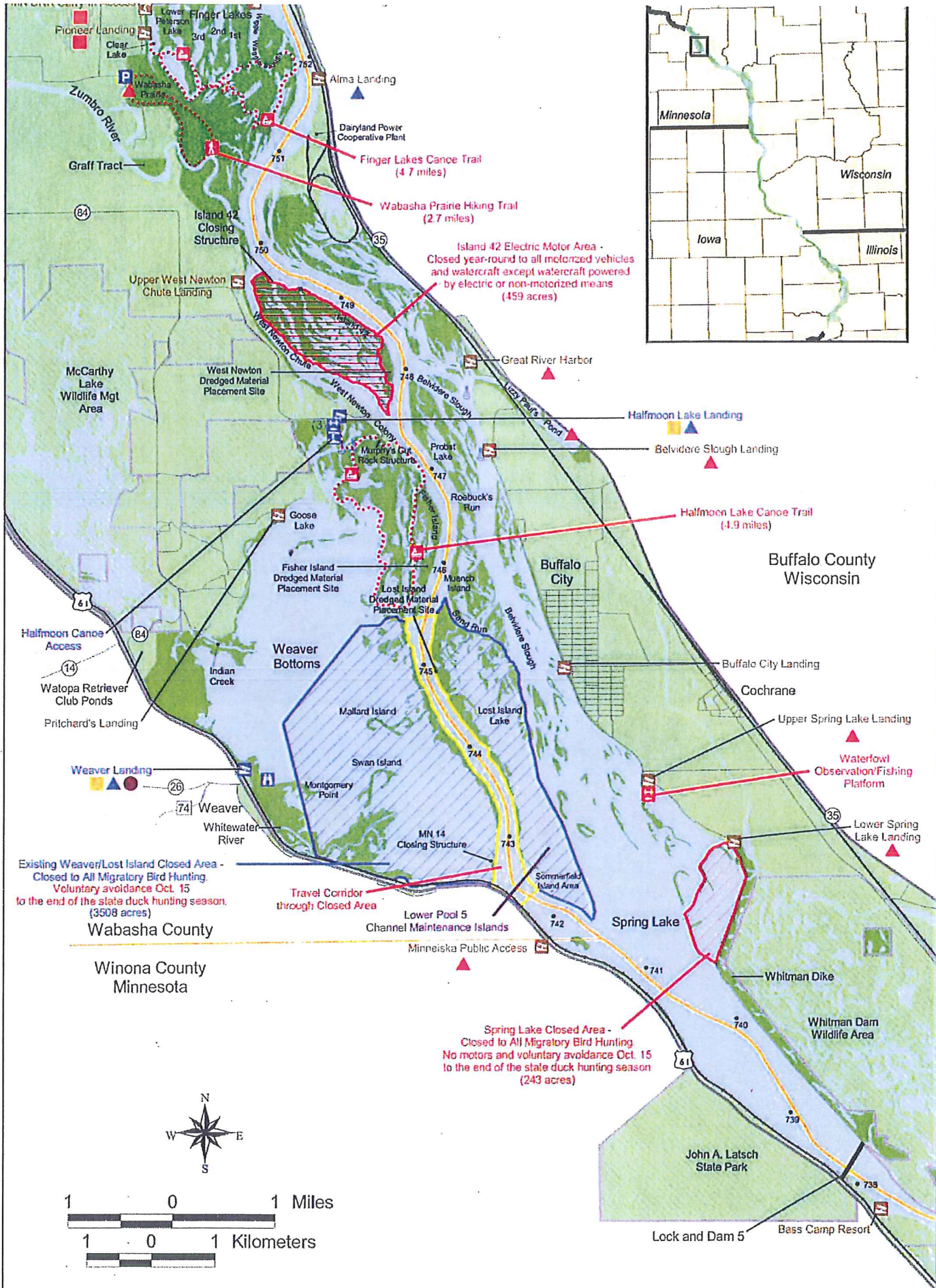
Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

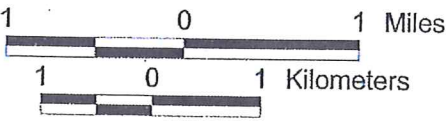
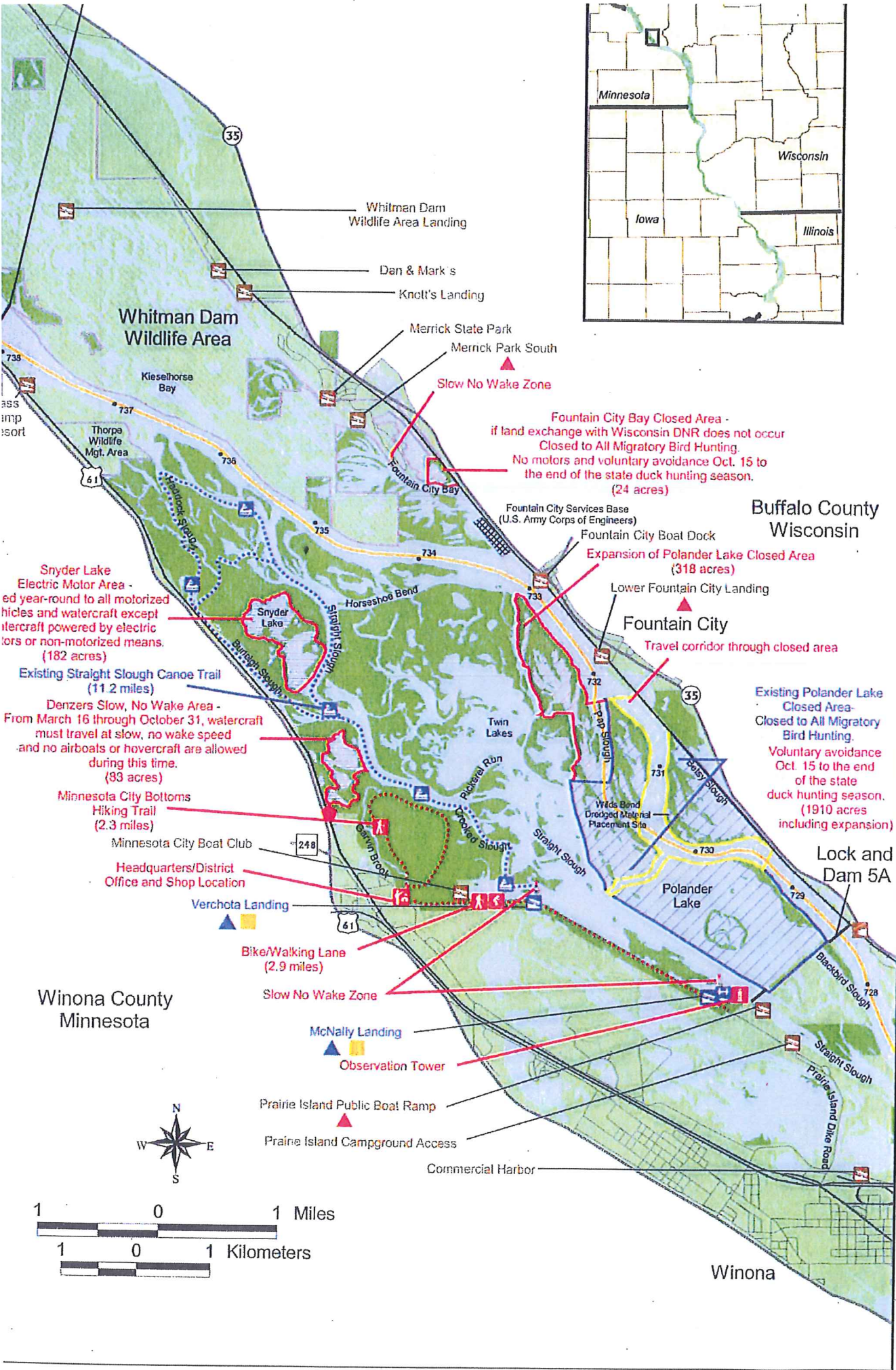
Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

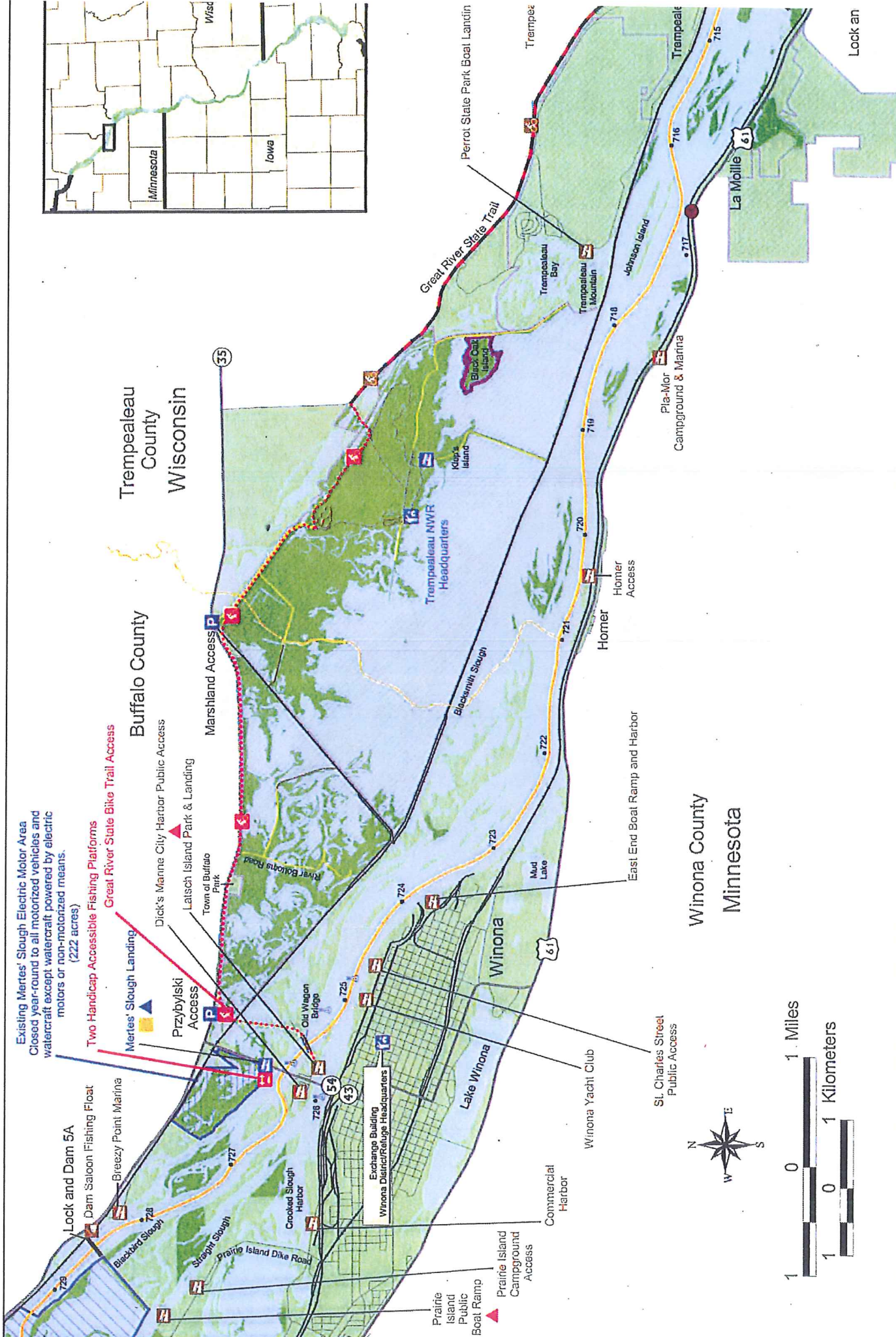
Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing

Alma Manna
 Tank Pond Landing







Existing Mertes' Slough Electric Motor Area
 Closed year-round to all motorized vehicles and
 watercraft except watercraft powered by electric
 motors or non-motorized means.
 (222 acres)

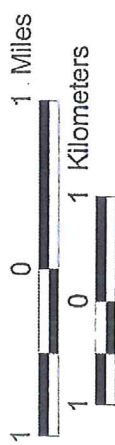
Two Handicap Accessible Fishing Platforms
Great River State Bike Trail Access

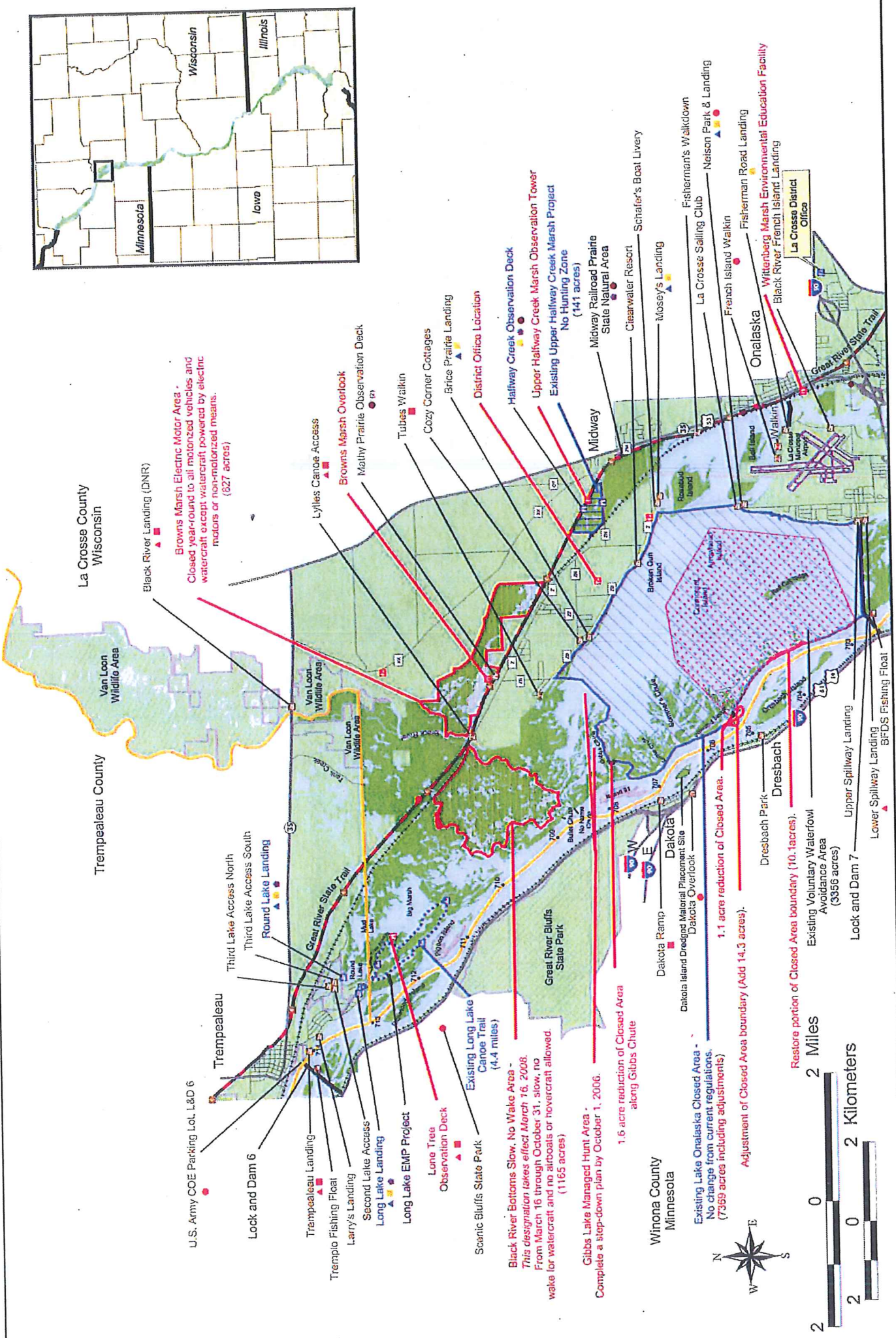
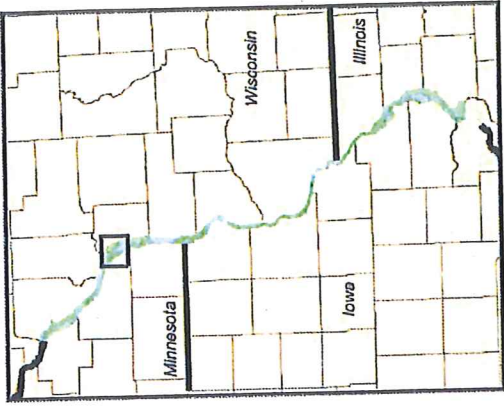
Trempealeau County
 Wisconsin

Buffalo County

Winona

Winona County
 Minnesota





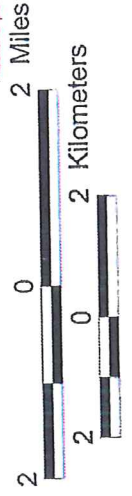
Browns Marsh Electric Motor Area
 Closed year-round to all motorized vehicles and watercraft except watercraft powered by electric motors or non-motorized means. (527 acres)

Black River Bottoms Slow, No Wake Area
 This designation takes effect March 16, 2008. From March 16 through October 31, slow, no wake for watercraft and no airboats or hovercraft allowed. (1165 acres)

Gibbs Lake Managed Hunt Area
 Complete a step-down plan by October 1, 2006. 1.6 acre reduction of Closed Area along Gibbs Chute

Existing Lake Onalaska Closed Area
 No change from current regulations. (7369 acres including adjustments)

Adjustment of Closed Area boundary (Add 14.3 acres).
 Restore portion of Closed Area boundary (10.1 acres). Existing Voluntary Waterfowl Avoidance Area (3356 acres)



La Crosse County Wisconsin

Trempealeau County

Winona County Minnesota

Black River Landing (DNR)

Third Lake Access North
 Third Lake Access South
 Round Lake Landing

Van Loon Wildlife Area
 Van Loon Wildlife Area
 Van Loon Wildlife Area

Round Lake
 Mud Lake
 Big Marsh
 Popple Island

Long Lake
 Long Lake Landing
 Long Lake EMP Project

Lone Tree Observation Deck
 Existing Long Lake Canoe Trail (4.4 miles)

Scenic Bluffs State Park
 Black River State Natural Area (141 acres)

Midway
 Midway Railroad Prairie State Natural Area

Clearwater Resort
 Mosey's Landing
 La Crosse Sailing Club

Fisherman's Walkdown
 Neison Park & Landing
 Fisherman Road Landing

Wittenberg Marsh Environmental Education Facility
 Black River French Island Landing
 La Crosse District Office

Black River Landing (DNR)

Lyles Canoe Access

Browns Marsh Electric Motor Area
 Closed year-round to all motorized vehicles and watercraft except watercraft powered by electric motors or non-motorized means. (527 acres)

Browns Marsh Overlook
 Mathy Prairie Observation Deck

Tubes Walkin
 Cozy Corner Cottages

Brice Prairie Landing
 District Office Location

Halfway Creek Observation Deck
 Upper Halfway Creek Marsh Observation Tower
 Existing Upper Halfway Creek Marsh Project
 No Hunting Zone

Midway
 Midway Railroad Prairie State Natural Area

Clearwater Resort
 Mosey's Landing
 La Crosse Sailing Club

Fisherman's Walkdown
 Neison Park & Landing
 Fisherman Road Landing

Wittenberg Marsh Environmental Education Facility
 Black River French Island Landing
 La Crosse District Office

Black River Landing (DNR)

Lyles Canoe Access

Browns Marsh Electric Motor Area
 Closed year-round to all motorized vehicles and watercraft except watercraft powered by electric motors or non-motorized means. (527 acres)

Browns Marsh Overlook
 Mathy Prairie Observation Deck

Tubes Walkin
 Cozy Corner Cottages

Brice Prairie Landing
 District Office Location

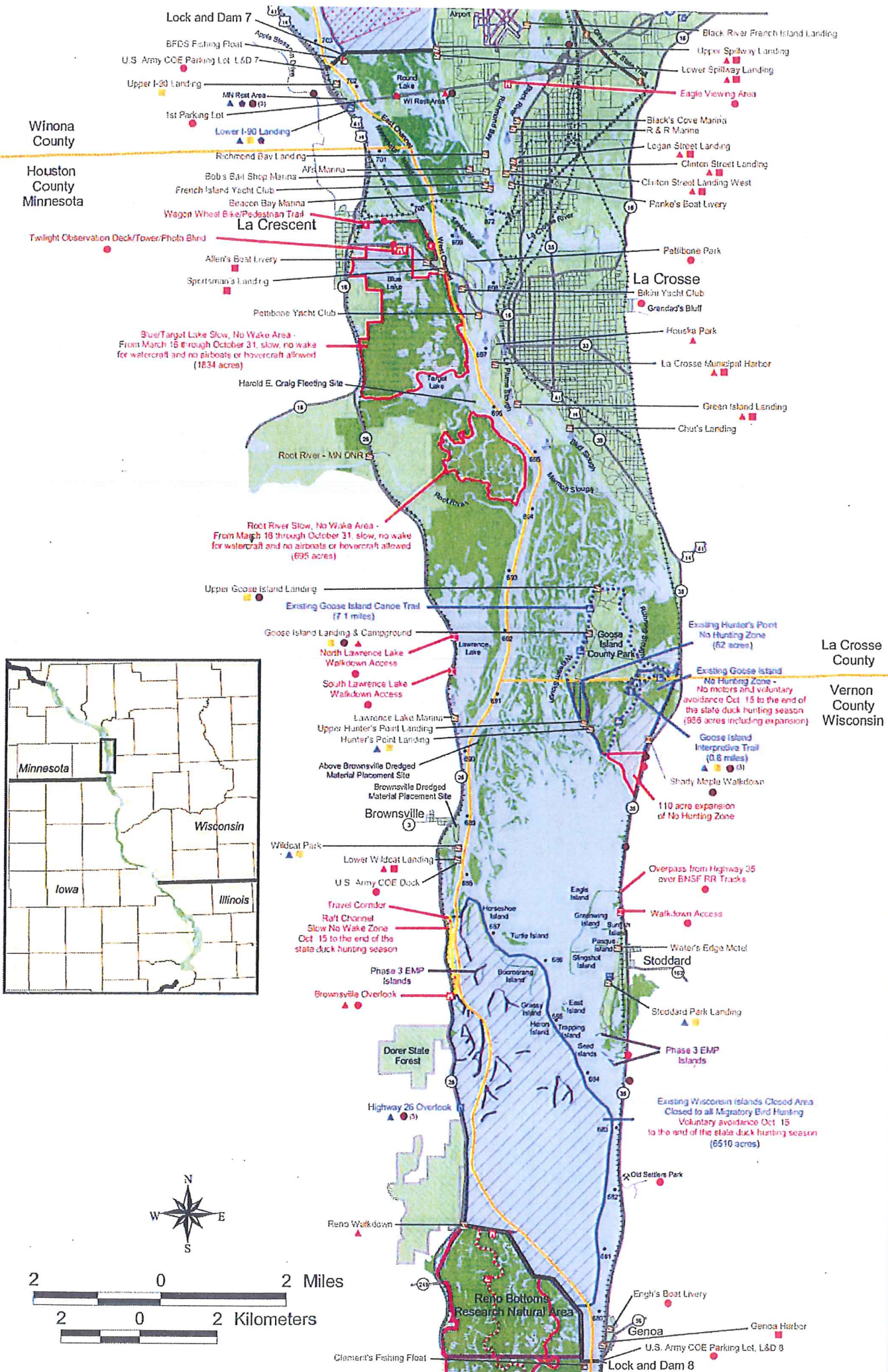
Halfway Creek Observation Deck
 Upper Halfway Creek Marsh Observation Tower
 Existing Upper Halfway Creek Marsh Project
 No Hunting Zone

Midway
 Midway Railroad Prairie State Natural Area

Clearwater Resort
 Mosey's Landing
 La Crosse Sailing Club

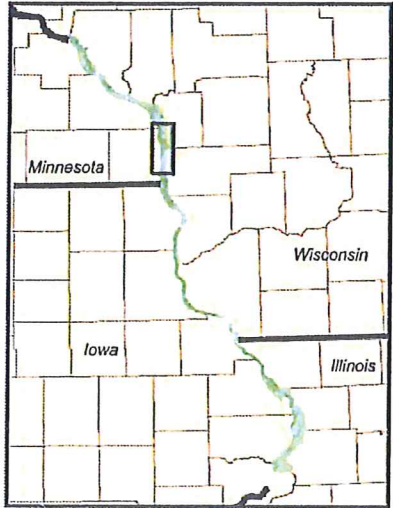
Fisherman's Walkdown
 Neison Park & Landing
 Fisherman Road Landing

Wittenberg Marsh Environmental Education Facility
 Black River French Island Landing
 La Crosse District Office



Winona County
Houston County
Minnesota

La Crosse County
Vernon County
Wisconsin

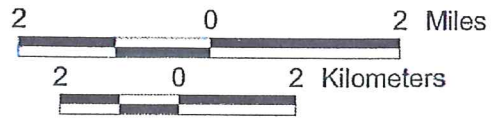


BlueTarget Lake Slow, No Wake Area -
From March 15 through October 31, slow, no wake
for watercraft and no airboats or hovercraft allowed
(1834 acres)

Root River Slow, No Wake Area -
From March 15 through October 31, slow, no wake
for watercraft and no airboats or hovercraft allowed
(695 acres)

Existing Goose Island
No Hunting Zone -
No motors and voluntary
avoidance Oct. 15 to the end of the
state duck hunting season
(956 acres including expansion)

Existing Wisconsin Islands Closed Area
Closed to all Migratory Bird Hunting
Voluntary avoidance Oct. 15
to the end of the state duck hunting season
(6510 acres)





WISCONSIN LAKES

We Speak for Lakes!

4513 Vernon Blvd., Suite 101, Madison WI 53705
608.661.4313 ~ 608.661.4314 fax
info@wisconsinlakes.org

August 1, 2013

Buzz Sorge, Lake Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
1300 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire WI 54701

Re: Letter of Support for River Alliance of Wisconsin Proposal for the La Crosse Area Partnership Coordinator

Dear Buzz,

Wisconsin Lakes enthusiastically supports the River Alliance of Wisconsin's grant proposal for a Coordinator to serve the La Crosse Area AIS Partnership. Wisconsin Lakes has signed on to be a member of the Partnership.

Despite the fact that the targeted area for this work contains few lakes, we understand the importance of controlling, and containing the spread of aquatic invasive species into Wisconsin through avenues such as the Upper Mississippi River. Stopping the spread of invasives in places like this will only help to keep them out of our lakes (and rivers) in other parts of the state.

This position will help meet the very real need to coordinate public outreach to audiences along the Mississippi River who need to hear the message about the AIS threat and how to prevent it. In addition, just from the meetings we have already attended, we see how this effort will help to bridge information gaps between scientists, agencies, the public, and nonprofit organizations like ourselves. By coordinating citizen, university, and agency AIS monitoring efforts, we'll improve efficiency and data sharing, and, given this world of limited resources, we'll be able to better identify priorities for AIS management.

Wisconsin Lakes is firmly committed to this effort. We plan on participating in the partnership steering committee, dedicating at least 50 hours of time over two years.

Again, we are excited about the potential for this partnership, and offer our support to the River Alliance's grant request.

Sincerely,

Michael Engleson
Interim Executive Director

Wisconsin Lakes is a statewide nonprofit organization with over 1,000 members and contributors including individuals, businesses, and lake associations or districts representing more than 80,000 citizens. For over 20 years, Wisconsin Lakes has been a powerful bipartisan advocate for the conservation, protection and restoration of Wisconsin's lake resources.

Marcus Medina
WDNR Water Guard
3350 Mormon Coulee Rd.
Lacrosse, WI, 54601

Buzz Sorge
WDNR Lake Coordinator
1300 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire WI 54701

Dear Mr.Sorge,

Being a Water Guard on the Mississippi River my job duties have made it apparent that there is a definite lack of organizations dedicated to aquatic invasive species control and prevention on the river. With the Mississippi river being classified a "super spreader" it is imperative a more prevalent and focused effort be made.

The institution of an AIS coordinator on the Mississippi River would be a keystone in establishing and managing specific areas of need such as public education, compliance, and sustainable partnerships. Furthermore, it will provide a larger public presence specific to AIS; an area that is currently drastically lacking.

Thank you for your continued effort into the control of AIS. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,

Marcus Medina
608.792.3741
marcus.medina@wisconsin.gov



Department of Land Conservation
County of La Crosse, Wisconsin
County Administrative Center • 400 4th Street North • Room 3270
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601-3200



Telephone: (608) 785-9867 • Fax: (608) 789-7849

www.co.la-crosse.wi.us

7/26/13

Buzz Sorge, Lake Coordinator
Wisconsin DNR
1300 W Clairemont Ave.
Eau Claire, Wi. 54701

Mr. Sorge;

I would like to extend my support for a proposal by the La Crosse Area Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership to obtain funding to hire a full-time AIS Coordinator. The AIS Coordinator will assist the Partnership in containing the spread of aquatic invasive species along the Mississippi River and its tributaries from La Crosse County up river to Buffalo County. This is an ambitious project and will need the assistance of a full-time coordinator if the Partnership is to be successful in attaining its goals.

The Partnership consists of federal, state and local units of government, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse as well as conservation organizations and associations. They have extensive knowledge regarding aquatic invasive species and the impacts they have on our local surface water resources and riparian lands. This knowledge needs to be shared with the public to raise awareness of the negative consequences caused by the spread of aquatic invasive species and to inspire them to take action. An AIS Coordinator is needed to bring this wealth of knowledge together and disburse it in a manner that effectively targets the primary users of the Mississippi River.

The La Crosse County Department of Land Conservation is a committed member of the Partnership and is willing to provide assistance, within our means, to see this proposal succeed in achieving its goals. Please feel free to contact me anytime at (608) 785-9867 if you would like to discuss our involvement with this proposal.

Gregg Stangl, Director
Department of Land Conservation
La Crosse County