

May 30th, 2017

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
3911 Fish Hatchery Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Subject: Final Grant Payment Request for Grant AEPP-446-15

Dear Ms. Chancellor and Ms. Graham,

The River Alliance of Wisconsin is seeking a final payment for Grant Agreement AEPP-446-15. The financial worksheets, invoices, receipts and donated labor worksheets for the period of July 2016- December 2016 are enclosed.

The following attached report outlines the deliverables met for grant AEPP-446-15. For the purposes of this interim grant payment request, I have summarized activities carried out through the entirety of the grant, including a full list of outreach presentations and publications. During this grant period, the Statewide AIS Program Director position was filled by two individuals, Jeremy Jones and Amanda Perdsock, with a vacancy occurring in the position from November 2016 until April 2016. During this interim period, additional River Alliance staff assisted with duties associated with the grant, however, a few deliverables were not met due to the timing of the vacancy. Deliverables that were not met during the grant period are included in this report, along with an estimation of when these deliverables will be completed.

If there are any questions regarding the grant, please contact me at aperdsock@wisconsinrivers.org or (608) 257-2424x111. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,


Amanda Perdsock

Grant AEPP-446-15- Statewide Riverine AIS Education, Planning and Prevention

Many gaps exist in the management of AIS in Wisconsin, particularly in and around our flowing waters. Among these gaps, five major priority needs were identified in 2014 between the River Alliance of Wisconsin and WDNR staff:

- Increased monitoring along hundreds of miles of riverbanks and hundreds of bridges/culverts;
- Increased action in the western half of the state, including on the major super spreader the Mississippi River;
- Hundreds of additional volunteers to identify and report AIS along rivers;
- New allies including wading anglers – a common vector – and local river and watershed organizations in the discussion of preventing the spread of invasive species; and
- Riverine AIS experts to serve on Department committees and teams.

Deliverables outlined in grant AEPP-446-15 were developed by River Alliance and statewide partners to address these needs. The following report outlines these deliverables and the progress made by River Alliance.

Summary of Project Goals and Activities for April 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016

I. Provide Local AIS Education and Monitoring for AIS for Rivers and Streams through Project RED (2015 & 2016)

a. At least 5 local AIS coordinators recruit and train Project RED volunteers (Complete for 2015 & 2016)

River Alliance hosted four Project RED trainer webinar, and two in person trainings during the project period. The webinar presentations for trainers was recorded and made available for additional trainers. A total of 21 trainers attended Project Red training in 2015, and three attended in 2016. Out of these trainers, five recruited and trained volunteers in 2015 and five recruited and training volunteers in 2016. Additional coordinators attempted to host trainings, but were not able to recruit enough volunteers.

Project RED materials were updated and distributed to coordinators both years of the project. A broad update to the program was planned for 2016, however was not able to happen due to the vacancy in the program director position from November 2015 to April of 2016. An evaluation and update to the program has been rescheduled for winter of 2017/18. Nearly 200 Project RED binders were printed, assembled, and distributed to local coordinators for training volunteers.

b. River Alliance hosts two Project RED trainings (Complete for 2015 & 2016)

River Alliance statewide staff attended and helped coordinate five Project RED volunteer trainings with local partners in 2015 and five trainings in 2016. Participation in these events helped train volunteers and increased local partner capacity for future trainings in AIS source waters and critical areas.

c. All data entered into SWIMS (presence and absence) (Completed 2015 & 2016)

Data & volunteer information from Project RED has been updated in SWIMS.

II. Provide Local AIS Education and Monitoring for AIS through AIS Bridge Snapshot Days (2015 & 2016)

a. Engage 20 local organizations and/or local AIS coordinators in hosting a rendezvous site (Complete for 2015 and 2016)

The River Alliance engaged over 20 local organizations and/or local AIS coordinators to host rendezvous sites for Statewide AIS Bridge Snapshot Day and hosted “Train the Trainer” webinars in both 2015 and 2016. These efforts resulted in 17 rendezvous sites in 2015 and 15 rendezvous sites in 2016. Each rendezvous site coordinator provided invasive species identification training to volunteers for up to 21 species and assigned the volunteers local stream sites to monitor. After volunteers monitored their assigned stream sites, data and species specimens were brought back to the rendezvous sites for review and verification by the local coordinators. These trainings allowed volunteers to build skills necessary for identifying and reporting populations of species beyond the date of the events. This resulted in the discovery of a new population of water hyacinth in the channels of Lake Winneconne by a Snapshot volunteer in October of 2015. Clean-up efforts of that population are still underway.

In addition to planning a Statewide AIS Bridge Snapshot Day on August 29, 2015, and September 10th, 2016, the River Alliance also hosted a Pilot Snapshot Day in Milwaukee on May 2nd, 2015, and a Habitat Snapshot Day on Black Earth Creek of Dane County on June 4th, 2016. The Black Earth Creek event was hosted in partnership with the DNR, Southwest Trout Unlimited and Black Earth Creek Watershed Association. Volunteers for this event learned how to assess stream health indexes as well as identify invasive species. Japanese hops, Japanese knotweed, purple loosestrife and Phragmites were included in the assessment, and volunteers were taught to identify New Zealand mudsnail as well. Following procedures similar to those used during Bridge Snapshot Day events, volunteers were assigned stream segments to wade, assessed stream conditions visually and via transects, and then brought data to a rendezvous site where further discussions took place about ways to get involved with AIS monitoring. A decontamination station was also set up at the rendezvous site with virkon for volunteers to clean gear and ensure the event did not lead to the spread of New Zealand mudsnail.

River Alliance is now planning a Snapshot Initiative in the Rock River Basin during June of 2017 with hopes of attracting the many WAV volunteers already engaged by the Rock River Watershed Association in that area of the state. A Statewide Snapshot Day is also in the works, to be hosted in partnership between River Alliance of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and University of Minnesota- Extension. This will be a two state effort which engages citizens on both rivers and lakes.

b. Over 150 volunteers trained in AIS identification and monitoring protocols (Complete for 2015 and 2016)

Forty volunteers participated in the Milwaukee Snapshot Pilot, 104 participated in the 2015 Statewide Snapshot Day, 47 participated in the Black Earth Creek event, and 101 volunteers took part in the 2016 Statewide Snapshot Day. A video introducing the Snapshot project and the monitoring protocols

was completed and posted on the River Alliance website in 2015 to assist with volunteer and coordinator training.

- c. **Over 150 priority locations monitored for AIS statewide (Complete for 2015 and 2016)**
Twenty sites were monitored during the Milwaukee Snapshot Pilot, 134 monitored during the 2015 Statewide Snapshot Day, 21 monitored during the Black Earth Creek event, and 145 monitored during the 2016 Statewide Snapshot Day.
- d. **All presence and absence data entered into SWIMS (Complete in 2015, Ongoing for 2016)**
Data from the Milwaukee Pilot Snapshot Day and the 2015 and 2016 Statewide Snapshot Days has been entered into SWIMS. AIS data for the Black Earth Creek event has been compiled, however, due to DNR streams staff limitations during 2016, further coordination for all data gathered at that event is still needed. River Alliance staff plan to enter Black Earth Creek data during June of 2017.

A google map of Snapshot Day results was developed in 2015. The Program Director will develop a map with 2016 data once final species verifications are received from the DNR.

- e. **Vouchers submitted following WDNR protocols for all species first documented on a waterbody (Complete in 2015 and 2016)**
Verify and voucher protocols for Snapshot Day were updated in 2015 and 2016 to reflect feedback from local site hosts and DNR staff. These revisions clarified the chain of custody for datasheets and vouchers, and increased opportunity for local hosts to document their review of volunteer data. Further protocols were developed with DNR staff in 2016 and piloted during the 2016 Statewide Snapshot Day to allow coordinators to submit photo vouchers to the DNR for verification.
- f. **2 Statewide Press Releases (Complete in 2015 and 2016)**
Press releases for Snapshot Day recruitment were developed and sent out by the Program Director in 2015 and 2016.

III. Continue to Provide Technical Consultation (Statewide and Local)

- a. **Serve on Statewide AIS Strategic Planning Core Team; Assist in Writing Statewide AIS Strategic Plan (Ongoing)**
River Alliance staff attended several AIS Strategic planning meetings and contributed to the recreational activities sub-pathway team. The Statewide AIS Strategic Plan is still in development, and River Alliance will continue to be involved in the process.
- b. **Engage at least three new river/watershed organizations in AIS monitoring, prevention or control (Complete for 2015 and 2016)**
The Invasive Species Program Director traveled the state to connect with new and existing river organizations. During this project, the Program Director traveled over 9,000 miles to reach groups and stakeholders in each of the five DNR regions of the state. This includes new training partnerships with Ozaukee Washington Land Trust and Washington County and monitoring events with the Rock River Coalition and Waukesha Fox River Conservation Group. River Alliance will build on these

efforts and continue to reach out to new river and watershed organizations during their next grant funding periods.

c. Other

River Alliance provided technical assistance to statewide and local groups as requested. This included collaborating with the DNR AIS stream monitoring pilot program in 2015 with several field visits and meetings. The Program Director also provided program updates at the monthly Lakes and Rivers Partnership meeting. Additionally, the AIS Program director consulted with local AIS coordinators on the St Croix strategic plan, the Lower Chippewa strategic plan and the La Crosse area strategic plan. Other activities included providing UW-Extension with support to develop Wader Brush station materials for waterfowl hunting groups, and providing feedback on the DNR's manual code for Boat, Gear, and Equipment Decontamination, and the departments' Rapid Response Framework for Invasive Species. Conversations are currently taking place with WAV to determine how AIS monitoring can be easily integrated with other stream monitoring events. Lastly, the Program Director served on the New Zealand mudsnail response team.

IV. AIS Stream Access Signage and Clean Angling/Decontamination Tools (Complete)

a. Monitor/maintain dozen boot brush stations and 100s of signs and boot brushes installed in Driftless Area in 2014 (Complete for 2015 and 2016)

Wader brush stations and signage in Dane, Iowa, Grant and portions of Richland and Sauk counties have been maintained and stations repaired as needed. Several groups reported missing or broken equipment and follow-up occurred in 2015. Due to the absence of a Statewide AIS Program Director from November 2015 to April 2016, maintenance of signs did not take place in spring of 2016. An intern assisted with site visits and check-ins with local partners during the fall of 2016, resulting in the surveying of 39 signs Vernon and Richland counties. Several signs needed to be repaired or replaced, however, all signs previously purchased had been distributed to partners across the state. New signs have been developed by the DNR with the assistance of the Program Director and an order has been placed as of May 2017. River Alliance will continue to assist in distributing and installing signs across the state once the new signs are ready.

b. Install at least 50 new AIS stream signs at high use access points (Complete for 2015 and 2016)

57 signs have been distributed for installation in Burnett, Marathon, Taylor and Wood Counties. Additional signage was installed in partnership with the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association and Badgerland RC&D in response to a new New Zealand mudsnail finding in the Upper Sugar River Watershed of Dane County.

c. Assess effectiveness of installed cleaning tools (Complete for 2015, ongoing for 2016)

Anecdotal /qualitative reports indicate that cleaning tools are being utilized. River Alliance is collaborating with UW extension to test data logging equipment that will be attached to select wader wash stations to assess use. The River Alliance AIS Intern placed three data loggers at three wader wash stations in Dane County over the weekend of October 7th, 2016. The intern was able to retrieve two data loggers two days later, while one logger was no longer present at the site. Due to the loss of one data logger, another intern placed data loggers on stations on May 19th, 2016, to continue the

assessment of wader wash station usage. River Alliance is currently developing reports based on the data collected, which will be shared with the DNR and other partner organizations.

V. Targeted Outreach Advocating Clean Angling (ongoing)

a. Two statewide press releases (Ongoing)

The Director's position was not filled when the early trout season openers occurred, and was filled only a few weeks prior to the regular trout openers both years. Due to this timing, the Directors prioritized implementing Project RED and Snapshot Day trainings for other coordinators and catching up with other program deliverables over compiling a press release. One press release was sent out in December 2016 in response to the New Zealand mudsnail finding in Badger Mill Creek. Additional press releases are planned for 2017 and 2018.

b. Video of angler using boot brush stations (Ongoing)

Due to the timing of vacancies for the Program Director, an extensive instructional video was not developed during the winter of 2015/2016. An outreach video aimed at anglers was developed in October of 2016 which included footage of River Alliance's Executive Director using a wader wash station. Additional footage will be taken during the summer of 2017 for the development of a video in the winter of 2017/2018

c. Articles in angling organizations newsletters (Complete)

Two AIS updates were included in the *Wisconsin Trout* newsletter in 2016, including one in December to raise New Zealand mudsnail awareness.

d. Present/Table to angling audiences distributing clean angling education information

The AIS coordinator presented at several regional Trout Unlimited chapters on the results of the NZM rapid response grant, current AIS issues and ongoing possibilities for angler involvement in 2015 and 2016. This also included two meetings with the Trout Unlimited state council with representatives from most regional chapters. The Statewide AIS Director also gave a talk on AIS identification and reporting at a Central TU stream volunteer meeting, and partnered with Southern Wisconsin TU to develop a radio spot in response to the New Zealand mudsnail finding during the fall of 2016. The spot is scheduled to air in May of 2017. Lastly the Program Director reached out to multiple TU chapters to begin the process of piloting Snapshot protocols to be used by anglers. The Director plans to partner with local chapters in 2017 to pilot revised protocols aimed at anglers and hopes to roll out a larger angler snapshot initiative in 2018.

Future Program Priorities

The River Alliance has been awarded two additional grants that will ensure the continuation of the Statewide Riverine AIS Program for another three years. Over this time period, River Alliance will continue to address the needs identified in 2014 and build upon the projects initiated during the previous grant period. With the support of the WI DNR, River Alliance will continue to lead the charge against invasive species on rivers and streams by:

- Leveraging our network of river groups to increase volunteer participation in stream AIS monitoring through efforts such as Project RED and Snapshot Day

- Engaging new audiences, including anglers and paddlers, to prevent the spread of AIS, and developing new outreach materials to address these audiences.
- Serving as a statewide resource for AIS planning on rivers, providing technical consultation to local river groups, WDNR, and other partners, and serving as an integral partner during rapid response efforts across the state.

To support these goals, the AIS Program Director will continue to serve as the point of contact for Riverine AIS issues across the state, and ensure the implementation of projects that meet statewide needs. Specific projects include promoting the use of Snapshot protocols by anglers, working with other volunteer programs (WAV, CLMN) to reduce redundancies and maximize productivity of volunteer efforts on streams, and evaluating and revising Project RED to increase its relevance to the statewide AIS program. Through projects such as these, River Alliance will give rivers a voice and serve as a statewide leader in the fight against AIS.

Summary of Activities (April 1 – June 30, 2015)

Project RED Volunteer & Local Coordinator Trainings/Events

River Alliance Project RED Monitoring Event on Sugar River. 5/31/2015
Ozaukee Washington Land Trust; Project RED Training. 6/5/2015
Ozaukee Washington Land Trust; Project RED Training. 6/6/2015
Ozaukee Washington Land Trust; Project RED Training 6/12/2015
Lower Chippewa/Beaver Creek Reserve; Project RED Training 6/26/2015

Project RED Trainer Webinar 7/10/2015

Project RED Trainer Webinar 7/19/2015

Revised Materials & Local Coordinator Resources: <http://tinyurl.com/ProjectRED2015>

AIS Snapshot Day Trainings/Events

Milwaukee Snapshot Day 5/02/2015

Statewide Snapshot Day Planning Committee Meeting #2 6/18/2015

Revised Materials & Local Coordinator Resources: <http://tinyurl.com/SnapshotDay2015>

AIS Bridge Snapshot Day Website: <http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/events/display/item/snapshot-day>

Technical Support/Other Statewide Meetings & Committees

AIS Statewide Strategic Planning Meeting 6/30/2015

AIS Stream Access Signage and Clean Angling/Decontamination Tools

Blue River watershed Wader/Wash Station Maintenance 6/17 – 6/18/2015

Targeted Outreach Advocating Clean Angling

Outreach correspondence with the following organizations:

Bayfield County, Calumet County, Fond du Lac County, Iron County, Vilas County, Oneida County, Jefferson County, Polk County, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area, Fox River Environmental Education Alliance, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development, Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association, UW Oshkosh, Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area, Lake Winnebago Water Quality Improvement Association, Calumet Groundwater Guardians, Winnebago Lakes Council, Friends of the Twin Rivers Watershed, Friends of the Upper St. Croix, St Croix River Association, Beaver Creek Reserve, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Washington County

Summary of Activities (July 1 – November 30, 2015)

Project RED Volunteer & Local Coordinator Trainings/Events

River Alliance Project RED Training for DNR LTE Staff, 7/1/2015
St Croix River Association Project RED Training, 7/17/2015
Project RED presentation at Celebrate the Lower Chippewa, 8/28/2015

Revised Materials & Local Coordinator Resources: <http://tinyurl.com/ProjectRED2015>

AIS Snapshot Day Trainings/Events/Publications & Media

Snapshot Day Coordinators/Host Training Webinar, 7/9/2015
Snapshot Day Winnebago Region Training, 8/6/2015
Statewide AIS Bridge Snapshot Day event, 8/29/2015

AIS Bridge Snapshot Day Introduction and Protocol Video: <https://youtu.be/91a2xPI1dJs>

Word on The Stream, Blog Post 9/22/2015: “2015 Aquatic Invasive Species Snapshot Day Update: *Volunteers make a splash searching for invasive species statewide*”

River Alliance Newsletter article: “Fond du Lac’s family fun involves invasive species hunt”. Fall 2015, Vol. 21, Issue 3.

Revised Materials & Local Coordinator Resources: <http://tinyurl.com/SnapshotDay2015>

AIS Bridge Snapshot Day Website: <http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/events/display/item/snapshot-day>

Video of AIS Bridge Snapshot Day Protocols:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91a2xPI1dJs&feature=youtu.be>

Google Map with Snapshot Day Results:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=zLyRPGVxgknk.kFzmfiwvfjho&usp=sharing>

Related 2015 Snapshot Day Press:

WSAW CBS TV 8/23/2015. *State Aquatic Invasive Species event to help battle unwanted species.*

<http://www.wsaw.com/home/headlines/State-Aquatic-Invasive-Species-event-to-help-battle-unwanted-species-322620602.html>

August 29 is AIS Bridge Snapshot Day: Help find invasives in the Winnebago system. Lake Winnebago Lakes Association Water Ways Newsletter Vol 10, #1; Spring 2015

WJFW NBC TV 8/27/2015. *Volunteers needed for statewide AIS monitoring.*

<http://www.wjfw.com/stories.html?sku=20150827120829>

Technical Support/Other Statewide Meetings & Committees

Field Test NZM & Monitoring Protocols in Black Earth Creek, DNR AIS Stream Monitoring Pilot project, 7/2/2015

AIS Statewide Strategic Planning Meeting, 7/6/2015

Wader Brush Station Project for Waterfowl hunters, meetings with UW-Extension 7/10/2015

St Croix AIS Strategic Plan, St Croix River Association, 7/16/2015

Lakes Convention Planning Meeting 8/13/2015

Pilot AIS Stream Monitoring Project – Field protocol testing, 8/18/2015
La Crosse Area AIS Strategic Plan meeting, 9/17/2015
Lakes Convention Planning Meeting, 9/19/2015
AIS Statewide Coordinators Meeting, 10/14 & 10/15/2015
Statewide AIS Strategic Plan meeting, 10/15/2015
Lakes Convention Planning meeting, 10/19/2015

AIS Stream Access Signage and Clean Angling/Decontamination Tools

7 signs distributed to Dave Seibel, DNR for Elton Creek in Langlade County, 8/14/2015
Wader Brush Station Maintenance, 9/3/2015

Targeted Outreach Advocating Clean Angling

River Alliance Annual Membership Meeting, 7/26/2015
Trout Unlimited: Harry & Laura Nohr chapter meeting, 9/14/2015
Trout Unlimited: Southern WI chapter meeting, 10/13/2015
Trout Unlimited: State Council meeting, 10/24/2015

Outreach correspondence with the following organizations:

Bayfield County, Calumet County, Fond du Lac County, Iron County, Vilas County, Oneida County, Jefferson County, Polk County, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area, Fox River Environmental Education Alliance, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development, Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association, UW Oshkosh, Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area, Lake Winnebago Water Quality Improvement Association, Calumet Groundwater Guardians, Winnebago Lakes Council, Friends of the Twin Rivers Watershed, Friends of the Upper St. Croix, St Croix River Association, Beaver Creek Reserve, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Washington County, Florence County Land and Water, Trout Unlimited State Council & various chapters.

Summary of Activities (December 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

Project RED Volunteer & Local Coordinator Trainings/Events

River Alliance La Crosse Coordinator Project RED Training, Brice Prairie Conservation Association, 02/24/2016
River Alliance work day on Koshkonong Creek and Project RED survey, 4/9/2016
River Alliance La Crosse Coordinator Project RED Training, UW La Crosse, 4/13/2016
River Alliance Project RED Train the Trainer webinar, 5/17/2016
River Alliance La Crosse Coordinator Project RED Training, Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, 05/20/2016
Woodland Dunes Nature Center Project RED Training, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, 6/22/2016
St Croix River Association, Polk County Project RED Training, 6/23/2016

Revised Materials & Local Coordinator Resources: <http://tinyurl.com/ProjectRED2016>

AIS Snapshot Day Trainings/Events/Publications & Media

Black Earth Creek Habitat Snapshot Day, 06/04/2016
Statewide AIS Bridge Snapshot Day event page posted on River Alliance of Wisconsin's website:
<http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/events/display/item/snapshot-day-5>
Event mailing sent to River Alliance mailing list 4/13/2016

Technical Support/Other Statewide Meetings & Committees

AIS/CISMA Spring Meeting, 4/20/2016-4/22/2016
Lakes and Rivers Partnership monthly meeting, first Tuesday each month

AIS Stream Access Signage and Clean Angling/Decontamination Tools

25 Stream access signs distributed to Chris Hamerla for use in Marathon, Taylor, and Wood Counties

Targeted Outreach Advocating Clean Angling

Trout Unlimited: State Council meeting, 5/14/2016
Updated Clean Angling handout, 6/3/2016
Wisconsin Trout, article submitted for summer volume, 6/14/2016

General AIS Outreach Events and Activities

Canoeecopia, AIS outreach, 3/11-3/13/2016
Fontana's Ladies' Night, AIS outreach, 5/4/2016
Rock River Coalition, Testing Waters Paddle and Probe, AIS outreach and training paddle, 5/15/2016
Outdoor Heritage Expos, AIS outreach, 5/19/2016
Rock River Coalition, Testing Waters Paddle and Probe, Post Paddle Event with board, 5/25/2016
River Alliance Lower Wisconsin Paddle with FLOW, partnership building event, 5/26/2016
Friends of Turtle Creek, Turtle Creek Paddle and AIS presentation, 6/7/2016
Central TU Chapter AIS ID Presentation, 6/11/2016

Outreach correspondence with the following organizations:

Bayfield County, Calumet County, Vilas County, Oneida County, Jefferson County, Polk County, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development, Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association, UW Oshkosh, Lake Winnebago Water Quality Improvement Association, St Croix River Association, Beaver Creek Reserve, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Washington County, Florence County Land and Water, UW Extension, UW Trout Lake, Friends of Manitowoc River Watershed, Trout Unlimited State Council & various chapters.

Summary of Activities (July 1, 2016 – Dec 31st, 2016)

Project RED Volunteer & Local Coordinator Trainings/Events

Revised Project RED materials for 2016: <http://tinyurl.com/projectred2016>
Woodlands Dunes Nature Center Project RED Training, Woodlands Dunes Nature Center, 7/26/2016
River Alliance Staff Wisconsin River Paddle, Wisconsin Dells, 7/27/2016
River Alliance La Crosse Coordinator Project RED Training, UW La Crosse, 9/20/2016
River Alliance and Waukesha County Java Water Dropwort Response Paddle, Bark River, 9/23-9/24/2016
River Alliance La Crosse Coordinator and Southwest Badger Project RED Training, Mynick Eco Park, 10/03/2016
River Alliance Staff Kickapoo River Paddle, Bridge 7, 10/5/2016
Volunteer Stream and Lake Monitoring Conference, Horicon Marsh Education Center, 10/22/2016

AIS Snapshot Day Trainings/Events/Publications & Media

Revised Materials & Local Coordinator Resources: <http://tinyurl.com/SnapshotDay2016>
Train the Trainer Webinar, 8/1/2016
AIS Statewide Bridge Snapshot Day, 9/10/2016
UMISC, Fieldtrip, Snapshot Protocols, 10/17/2016
Plants out of Place. IPAW November 2016 Newsletter. “Third Annual Aquatic Invasive Species Bridge Snapshot Day”:
<http://www.ipaw.org/portals/ipaw/documents/newsletters/Newsletter%2050.pdf?ver=2016-11-14-120022-100>

Rock River Snapshot Day Planning Meeting, 12/1/2016
2017 Lakes and Rivers Snapshot Day Planning Meeting, 12/9/2016

Word on the Stream Blog Post 8/3/2016, “Calling All Citizen Scientists”:
<https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/word-on-the-stream/blog/item/snapshot-day-4>
<http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/events/display/item/snapshot-day-5>
AIS Bridge Snapshot Day Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1626699537620679/>
Winnebago Lakes Council Newsletter, post card:
Statewide Press Release, AIS Bridge Snapshot Day
WOSH Radio interview, 8/31/2016
WISC-TV interview, 9/5/2016 <http://m.channel3000.com/wisctv/Help-keep-Wisconsin-waters-free-of-invasive-species/41524668>
WFAW Radio interview, 9/9/2016

Technical Support/Other Statewide Meetings & Committees

Lakes Convention Planning Meeting, 7/11/2016
Monthly Lake Partnership Call
AIS Partnership Meeting, Ashland, 8/15-8/16/2016
UMISC, Presenter, Utilizing Citizen Monitors for AIS, 10/17-10/19/2016
Fall AIS Coordinators Meeting, 11/15-11/16/2016
New Zealand Mudsnail Response Committee
Project RED Discussion with President of Friends of Manitowoc River Watershed, 12/13/2016

AIS Stream Access Signage and Clean Angling/Decontamination Tools

AIS Intern Assessment of Stream Access Signage and Brush Stations
Wader Wash Station Usage Studied

Updated stream signage and wader wash station map:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1ZYzOjN6WiL3MF9S7uxEvVMK7aAg&ll=43.820915793622945%2C-90.23540996425777&z=7>

Targeted Outreach Advocating Clean Angling

Angler Youth Camp Presentation, 7/14/2016

River Alliance Video, "Raj Goes Fishing", 10/19/2016

<https://www.facebook.com/riveralliance/videos/10154388323300218/>

Meeting with SWTU Volunteer Coordinator, 11/17/2016

Meeting with SWTU Board, 12/6/2016

Word on the Stream Blog Post December 13, 2016. "New Zealand Mudsnaill Found for 2nd Time in Dane County". <https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/word-on-the-stream/blog/item/new-zealand-mudsnaill-found>

Wisconsin Trout Magazine, 12/2016

Badger Mill Creek Press Release, "Exotic Invader, New Zealand Mudsnaill, Found for Second Time in Dane County: Water Users Play Important Role in Preventing the Spread", 12/2016

<https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/images/PDF/20161209-Exotic-Invader-New-Zealand-Mudsnaill.pdf>

General AIS Outreach Events and Activities

Tarrant Lake PI Survey, 8/1/2016

Winneconne Work Day Press Release, published in The Source Newsletter, and Winnebago Lakes Council Newsletter

Winneconne Water Hyacinth Clean-up Day, 9/17/2016

River Alliance Goin' Pokin' on the Token, Token Creek Paddle, 8/11/2016

Outreach correspondence with the following organizations:

Bayfield County, Calumet County, Vilas County, Oneida County, Jefferson County, Polk County, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development, Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association, UW Oshkosh, Lake Winnebago Water Quality Improvement Association, St Croix River Association, Beaver Creek Reserve, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Washington County, Florence County Land and Water, UW Extension, UW Trout Lake, Friends of Manitowoc River Watershed, Friends of the Lower Wisconsin, Lakeshore Natural Resources Partnership, Friends of the Manitowoc River Watershed, Trout Unlimited State Council & various chapters.



May 25, 2017

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
3911 Fish Hatchery Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Subject: Certifying Statement for Grant AEPP-446-15

Dear Ms. Graham,

This letter is to serve as a certifying statement for the final grant reimbursement request for Grant AEPP-446-15 covering the time period of July 2016 through December 2016. During this time period, Amanda Perdzock served as the River Alliance of Wisconsin's AIS Program Director and has been reimbursed for this work by the River Alliance of Wisconsin. The total expense was \$59,683.99, including salary and employee benefits. River Alliance staff have also contributed significantly to this project.

During this time period, Amanda was responsible for fulfilling requirements of grant agreement AEPP-446-15. With the support of other staff at the River Alliance of Wisconsin, we produced deliverables in-line with our goals/outcomes. We have continued to build upon relationships with volunteers and local and state agency staff statewide. Additionally, we conducted significant outreach to local groups and audiences throughout the state to raise awareness about AIS in river corridors. Finally, we have been responsible for the continued development and implementation of Project RED and a Statewide AIS Bridge Snapshot Day.

Denny Caneff and Raj Shukla, executive directors, provided support in identifying project goals, priorities, and partners. Their leadership and partnerships enabled Amanda, as program director, to reach out and effectively partner with instrumental players throughout the state. Their promotion of this project to these partners at events and in conversation helped gain statewide support. They also provided program administrative support and supervision. Denny spent 55 hours at a rate of \$51.75/hour and Raj spent 88 hours at a rate of \$49.59 on this program from July 1st, 2016 through December 31st, 2016. Denny's and Raj's additional funding is provided by McKnight Foundation, Patagonia, Brico Fund, Joyce Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, CS Mott Foundation, and individual contributions.

Sharon White, Assistant Director, provided bookkeeping and office manager and communications support. She processed invoices, paid bills and reconciled bank accounts with internal tracking systems, ran bi-weekly payroll, oversaw banking transactions, assisted with preparation of project's annual budget and annual audit. Sharon worked 97 hours from July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 at a rate of \$40.90/hour. Sharon's additional funding is provided by McKnight Foundation, Patagonia, Brico Fund, Joyce Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, CS Mott Foundation, and individual contributions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raj Shukla".

Raj Shukla
Executive Director