



Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street

P.O. Box 19001

Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

www.wisconsinpublicservice.com

December 19, 2014

FERC Project No. 2433

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE  
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Secretary Bose:

Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project  
NPMP Invasive Species Monitoring Plan

As per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order Amending Approved Noxious Plants Monitoring Plans (NPMP) for Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2433) issued on May 10, 1999, Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) is required to submit the results of the invasive species monitoring surveys to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) by October 31, and to the FERC by December 31 each year a survey has been completed.

**2014 Purple Loosestrife Survey Results**

A purple loosestrife (PL) survey was completed on the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project on July 18, 2014. One small colony (<5 plants) of PL was identified at the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project. Appendix A includes the 2014 PL survey figures and results.

Prior to seed set, WPS will be visiting the site in 2015 and properly remove and dispose of the PL plants. WPS believes this is an isolated find and will be able to eliminate the population with removal activities over the next several years.

**2014 Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey Results**

A Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) survey was completed on the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project on July 18, 2014. EWM was again observed at slightly lower populations than in 2011 at the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project (10.9 acres – 10.0 acres). Appendix B includes the 2014 EWM survey figures and results.

Overall, the changes in EWM populations are similar to fluctuation observed in previous surveying events and at other WPS hydroelectric projects.

It is also important to note that the acres included on the figures represent the furthest extent of where the EWM was identified. Within the defined EWM extent consists a variety of aquatic vegetation; in approximately 98% of the transects sampled, EWM was observed at present less than half compared to the surrounding vegetation.

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose  
December 19, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

WPS provided the 2014 PL and EWM survey results for the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project to the resource agencies on October 15, 2014. No comments were received from the resource agencies. Documentation of Consultation is included in Appendix C.

Should you have any questions relative to this material, please do not hesitate to contact Jamie Nuthals at (920) 433-1460.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gil Snyder", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gil Snyder  
Manager - Regional Generation

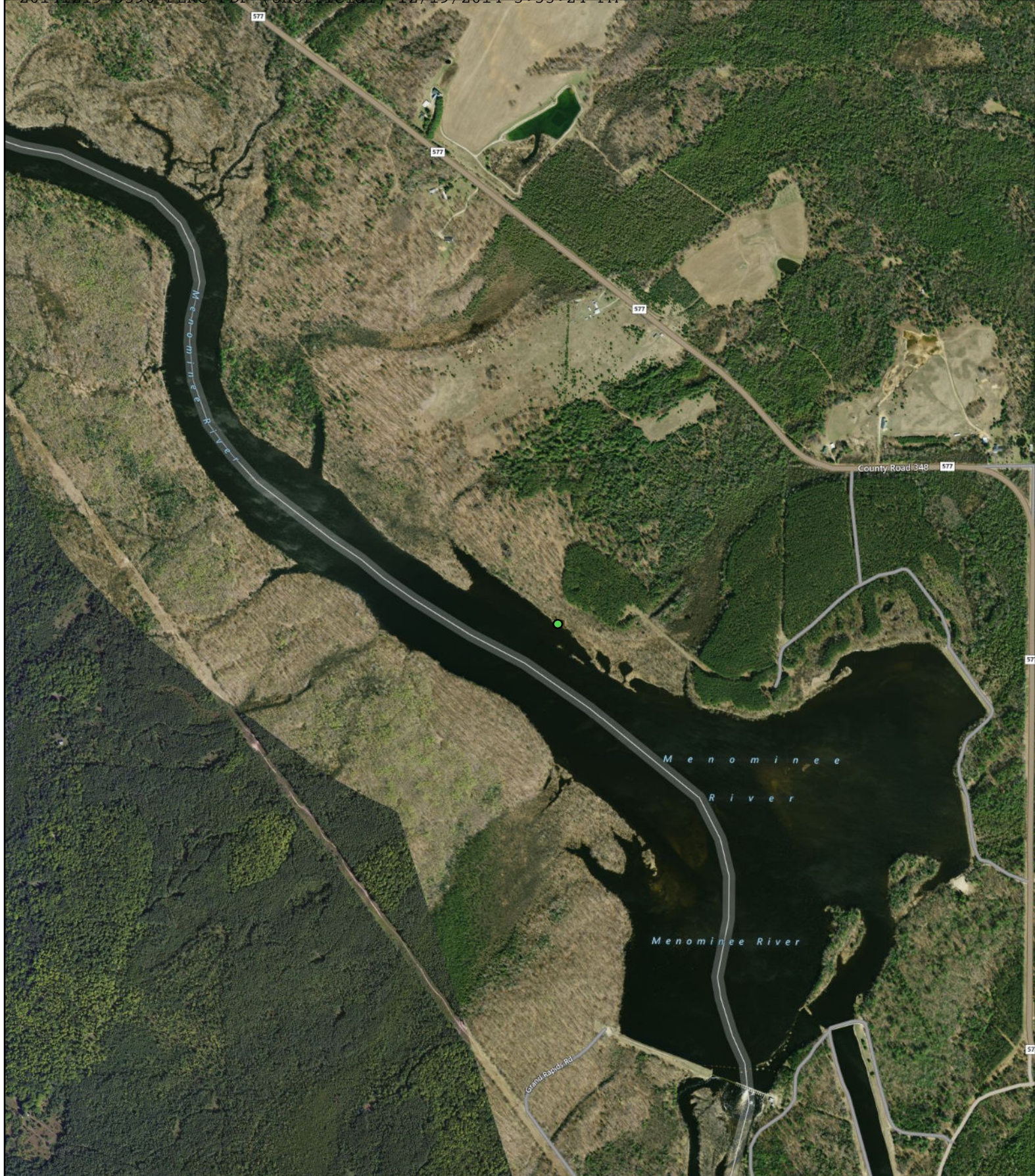
JDN /jrf

Enc: Grand Rapids EWM & PL – Agency Letters

cc:	Mr. Shawn Puzen, IBS - D2	Mr. Brad Menning, WPS - MERH
	Ms. Joan Johaneck, WPS - D2	Mr. John Zygaj, FERC - CRO
	Mr. William Bosacki, WPS - D2	Mr. Edward Brandt, WPS - CRI
	Mr. John Myers, IBS - D2	

APPENDIX A





## Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project Purple Loosestrife Survey - 2014

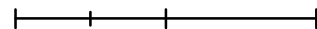
Aerial Source: Bing Maps

### Purple Loosestrife

- 0-5 Plants
- 6-50 Plants
- >50 Plants



0 850 1,700 Feet



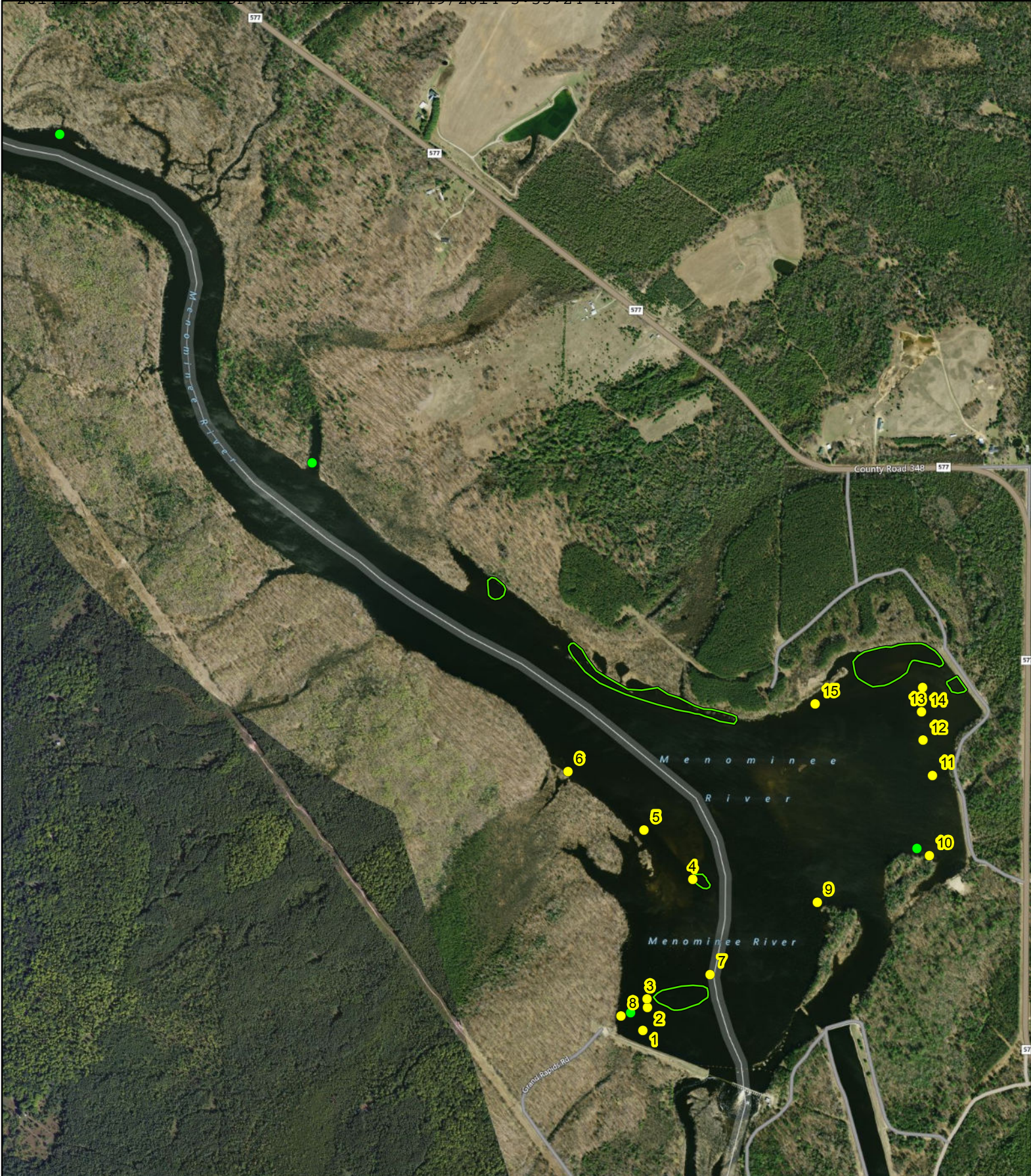
9/16/2014





APPENDIX B





# Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey

Aerial Source: Bing Maps

- Transect Point
- Observation Point
- Observation Area - 2014



0 840 1,680 Feet

8/27/2014



Eurasian Water Milfoil Surveys - 2014					
Grand Rapids					
Transect #	Results at 0.5 feet	Results at 1.5 feet	Results at 3.0 feet	Results at +3.0 feet	Origin
1A	0	0			45 21.809
1B	0	0			87 39.562
1C	0	0			
2A	0	0			45 21.841
2B	0	0			87 39.561
2C	0	0			
3A	0	0			45 21.855
3B	0	0			87 39.553
3C	0	0			
4A	0	0			45 22.022
4B	0	0			87 39.467
4C	0	0			
5A	0	0			45 22.092
5B	0	0			87 39.562
5C	0	0			
6A	0	0			45 22.176
6B	0	0			87 39.713
6C	0	0			
7A	0	0			45 21.890
7B	0	0			87 39.425
7C	0	0			
8A	3	1			45 21.830
8B	0	0			87 39.608
8C	0	0			
9A	0	N/A			45 21.995
9B	0	N/A			87 39.216
9C	0	0			
10A	0	0			45 22.059
10B	0	0			87 38.990
10C	0	0			
11A	0	0			45 22.174
11B	0	0			87 38.985
11C	0	0			
12A	0	0			45 22.223
12B	0	0			87 39.006
12C	0	0			
13A	0	0			45 22.261
13B	0	1			87 39.006
13C	0	0			
14A	0	0			45 22.298
14B	0	0			87 39.006
14C	0	0			
15A	0	0			45 22.275
15B	0	0			87 39.223
15C	0	0			

Abundance Scale: 0-Absent, 1-Present, 2-Presence Less Than Half, 3-Equal Presence Compared to Other Species, 4-Dominant Species Present, 5-Total Infestation

Note: All transects are 40 feet in length and proceed in an easterly direction from their origin.



APPENDIX C

WPS LETTERS TO THE RESOURCE AGENCIES

## Nuthals, James D

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**From:** Nuthals, James D  
**Sent:** Friday, October 17, 2014 12:47 PM  
**To:** 'Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR'; Kruger, Kyle (DNR) (KRUGERK@michigan.gov); Utrup, Nick <nick\_utrup@fws.gov> (nick\_utrup@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project - 2014 EWM and Purple Loosestrife Survey Results  
**Attachments:** 2014 Grand Rapids EWM&PL-FWS.pdf; 2014 Grand Rapids EWM&PL-MDNR.pdf; 2014 Grand Rapids EWM&PL-WDNR.pdf

**Importance:** High

Greetings,

Please reference the attached Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) 2014 Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project EWM and Purple Loosestrife Report.

Please provide comments within thirty (30) days of receiving this information.

Sincerely,

### James D Nuthals

**Natural Resource Management | Environmental Services | Integrys Business Support, LLC**

920-433-1460

920-309-0741 *cell (please note cell phone number change)*

920-433-1176 *fax*

[jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com](mailto:jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com)

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

*Providing support for Integrys Energy Group, Integrys Energy Services, Michigan Gas Utilities, Minnesota Energy Resources, North Shore Gas, Peoples Gas, Upper Peninsula Power Company, Wisconsin Public Service, and Wisconsin River Power.*





Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street

P.O. Box 19001

Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

October 15, 2014

FERC Project No. 2433

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Ms. Laatsch:

**Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Projects - NPMP Invasive Species Monitoring Plan**

As per the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order Amending Approved Noxious Plants Monitoring Plans (NPMP) for Grand Rapids dated May 10, 1999, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) is required to submit the results of the invasive species monitoring surveys to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS).

**2014 Grand Rapids Projects – Purple Loosestrife Survey Results**

A purple loosestrife (PL) survey was completed on the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project on July 18, 2014. One small colony (<5 plants) of PL was identified at the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project. Appendix A includes the 2014 PL survey figures and results.

Prior to seed set, WPS will be visiting the site in 2015 and properly remove and dispose of the purple loosestrife plants. WPS believes this is an isolated find and will be able to eliminate the population with removal activities over the next several years.

**2014 Grand Rapids Projects – Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey Results**

Surveys for Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) were also completed July 18, 2014 on the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project. EWM was again observed at slightly lower populations than in 2011 at the Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project (10.9 acres – 10.0 acres). Appendix B includes the 2014 EWM survey figures and results.

Overall, the changes in EWM populations are similar to fluctuation observed in previous surveying events and at other WPS hydroelectric projects.

It is also important to note that the acres included on the figures represent the furthest extent of where the EWM was identified. Within the defined EWM extent consists a variety of aquatic vegetation; in approximately 98% of the transects sampled, EWM was observed at present less than half compared to the surrounding vegetation.

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch

October 15, 2014

Page 2 of 2

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me within thirty (30) days of receiving this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Nuthals", written in a cursive style.

James Nuthals

Environmental Services

Natural Resource Management

Office: (920) 433-1460

Email: [jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com](mailto:jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com)

jdn/rjf

Enclosures



Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street

P.O. Box 19001

Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

October 15, 2014

FERC Project No. 2433

Mr. Kyle Kruger  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Mio Field Office  
191 S. Mt. Tom Rd  
Mio, MI 48647

Dear Mr. Kruger:

### **Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Projects - NPMP Invasive Species Monitoring Plan**

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Mr. Kyle Kruger  
October 15, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

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Sincerely,

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James Nuthals  
Environmental Services  
Natural Resource Management  
Office: (920) 433-1460  
Email: [jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com](mailto:jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com)

jdn/rjf  
Enclosures



Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street

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Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

October 15, 2014

FERC Project No. 2433

Mr. Nicholas Utrup  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Department of the Interior  
4101 American BLVD E  
Bloomington, MN 55425

Dear Mr. Utrup:

**Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Projects - NPMP Invasive Species Monitoring Plan**

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Mr. Nicholas Utrup

October 15, 2014

Page 2 of 2

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Sincerely,

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James Nuthals

Environmental Services

Natural Resource Management

Office: (920) 433-1460

Email: [jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com](mailto:jdnuthals@integrysgroup.com)

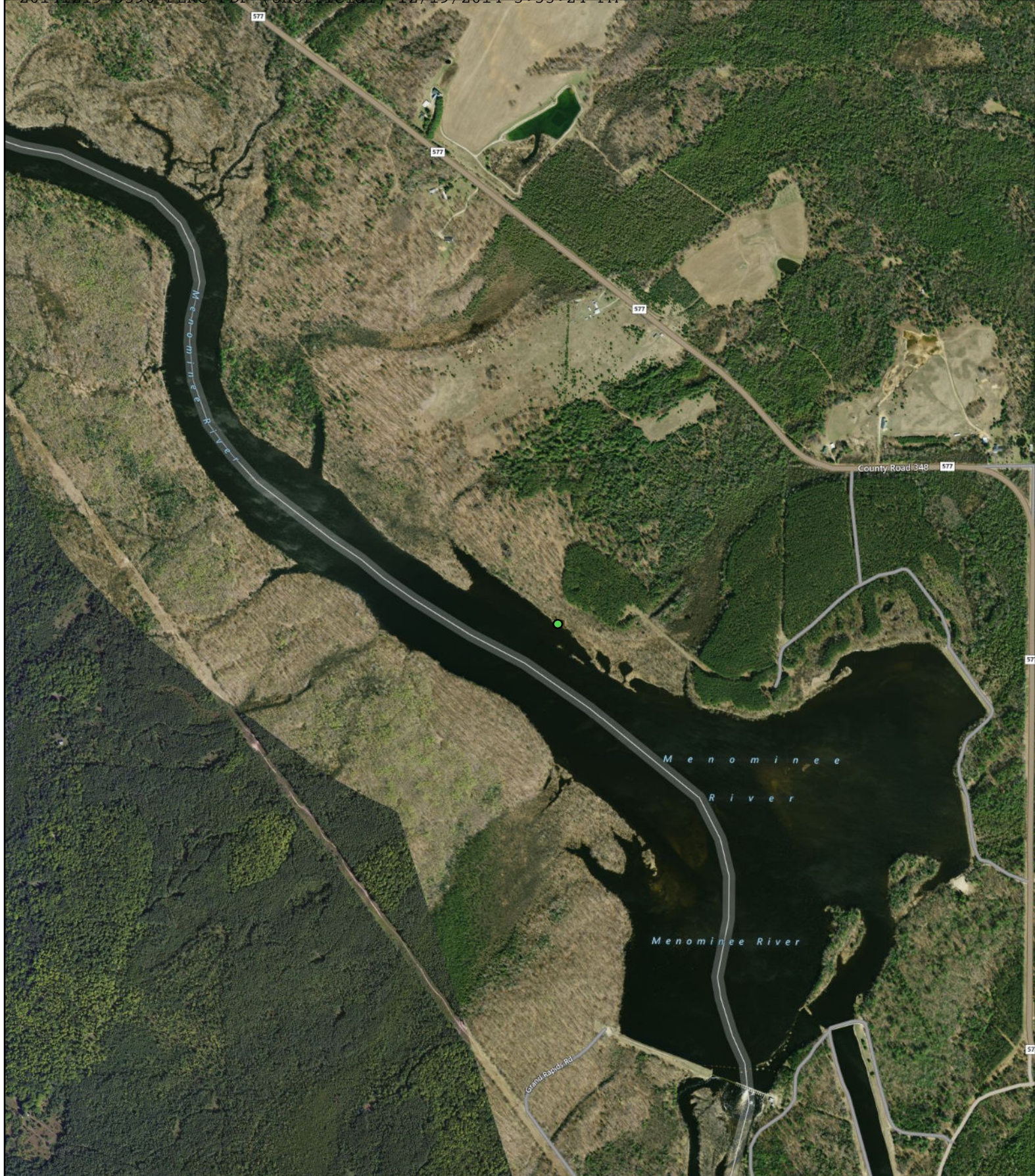
jdn/rjf

Enclosures



APPENDIX A





## Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project Purple Loosestrife Survey - 2014

Aerial Source: Bing Maps

### Purple Loosestrife

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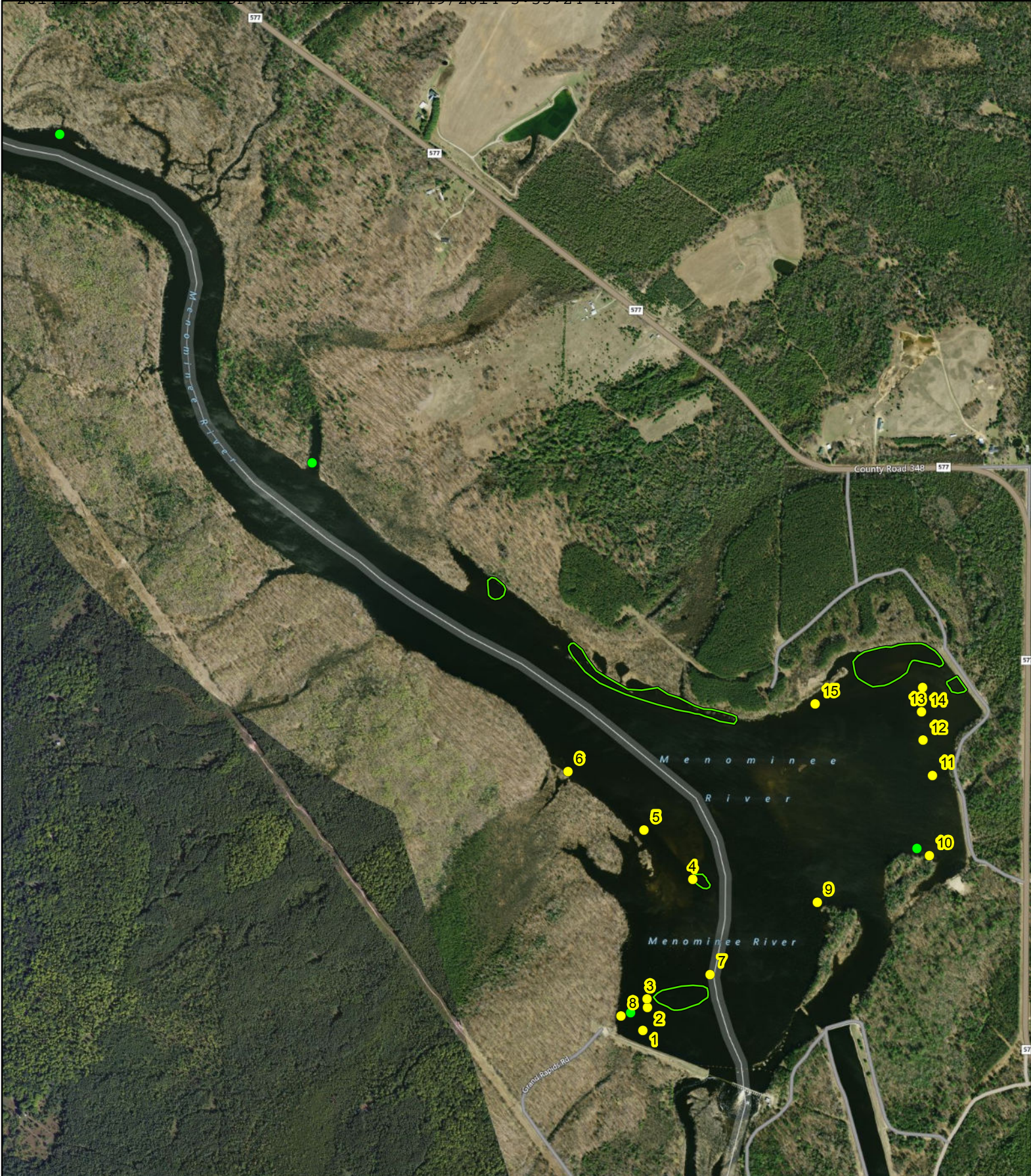
9/16/2014





APPENDIX B

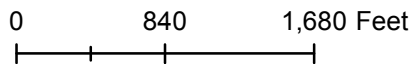




# Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey

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8/27/2014



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12B	0	0			87 39.006
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Note: All transects are 40 feet in length and proceed in an easterly direction from their origin.

NO COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, OR THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Document Content(s)

20141219GrandRapidsEWM&PL-FERC.PDF.....1-2

20141219GrandRapidsEWM&PL-AgencyLetters.PDF.....3-24