

January 11, 2016

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

**RE: Flambeau Upper FERC Project Number 2640
Flambeau Hydro LLC
Final Report 2015 Purple Loosetrife Inventory Report**

Dear Ms. Bose:

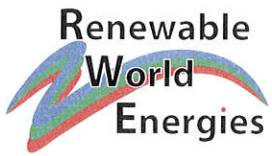
On behalf of Flambeau Hydro LLC, "Flambeau" (Licensee), Renewable World Energies, LLC (RWE) is submitting a copy of the *Final Report 2015 Purple Loosetrife Inventory Report* for the Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project. The report is a requirement of Flambeau's Federal license pursuant to article 412. Monitoring was conducted on August 24 and 25, 2015. No out of the ordinary issues were encountered and no Purple Loosetrife was observed. The draft report was sent to the agencies by a letter dated November 9, 2015 as an attachment to an e-mail sent the same day for review and comment. Comment was received from WDNR on December 1, 2015 saying "the reports had been reviewed and they do not have any comments". No comments have been received from the USFWS. The next scheduled monitoring event will be conducted in 2016.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal, please contact Mr. Gary Rast at the Renewable World Energies, LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 Ext 105. He can also be reached by e-mail at grast@rwehydro.com.

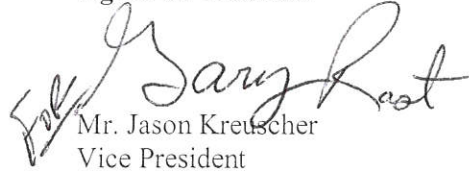
Corporate Office
P.O. Box 264
100 S. State Street
Neshkoro, WI 54960
Fax: 920-293-4100

Phone: 855-99HYDRO
(855-994-9376)
www.renewableworldenergies.com

Administrative Office
1001 Stephenson Street
Norway, MI 49870
Fax: 906-563-9344



Sincerely,
Renewable World Energies, LLC
Agent for Licensee


Mr. Jason Kreuscher
Vice President

Attachment: Flambeau Upper Final Purple Loosetrife Inventory Report

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

Flambeau Upper Project Purple Loosestrife Inventory
August 24-25, 2015
FERC Project # 2640 Article 412

Flambeau Hydro LLC
100 S. State St.
Neshkoro, WI 54960

Purple Loosestrife

On August 24th and 25th, 2015, Flambeau Hydro, LLC (FHLLC) performed an inventory of purple loosestrife plants at the Flambeau Upper Project in Price County, Wisconsin. The method of inventory as approved and modified by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order of June 18, 2003 was defined as follows:

While Purple Loosestrife is blooming in mid-July to early August, the inventory should be conducted using a boat to survey the impoundment above the dam within the Project Boundary and on foot or by boat below the dam within the Project Boundary. County wetland maps may be used to determine other areas where Purple Loosestrife could be found on lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary. Lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary will be surveyed on foot. A pair of binoculars should be used to search for the purple flowered spikes of the plant. When plants are located, the person(s) inventorying should get close enough to make a positive identification without disturbing the plants or the immediate area around the plants as this could cause them to spread. A GPS receiver will be used to establish a GPS coordinate for the location of the plants. If it is not possible to get close enough to establish an accurate location, an approximate location will be established with reference to an established GPS coordinate. The plants should be inventoried by marking and numbering the location on a Project map along with notes approximating size of plants, stand area, percent cover, stem density, plant density, and location with reference to established GPS coordinates. Photos and/or videotape will be taken of the largest occurrences.

Example:

#1 6' tall plants; 4' x 20'; 30% cover; 4-5 stems per plant; 4 plants; on shoreline N45 56.183' W90 26.748'; no photo

#2 5'-7' tall plants; 10' x 10'; 25% cover; 4-5 stems per plant; 10 plants; in marsh ~50 feet Bearing 25 degrees from N45 56.256' W90 26.710'; photo No. 1

The area to be inventoried shall be the shoreline of the impoundment to elevation 1487.4 feet NGVD and lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary as indicated on the Project Maps 1 & 2, dated November 1991, included in Exhibit G of Flambeau Paper Corp. Application for a Subsequent License for the Upper Hydroelectric Project FERC Project #2640.

General Observations:

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

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

The power canal/bypassed reach was surveyed on foot and no purple loosestrife plants were found. No occurrences of purple loosestrife have been found in this area since 2007.

The impoundment was surveyed by boat and no purple loosestrife plants were found. No occurrences of purple loosestrife have been found in this area since 2007.

All survey information has been entered into the SWIMS database for the 2015 year.

If any purple loosestrife plants had been found during the inventory, a digital camera would have been used to document these occurrences and GPS coordinates for the location of the plants would have been recorded.

Purple Loosestrife Survey

Project: Flambeau Upper #2640

Datum: WGS 84

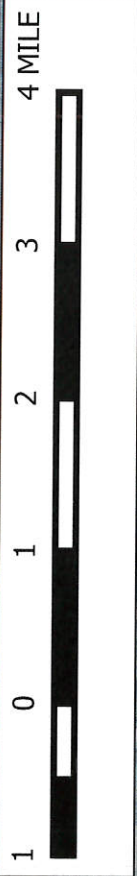
Date: August 24 & 25, 2015

Page: 1 of 1

Crew: GGR & JT

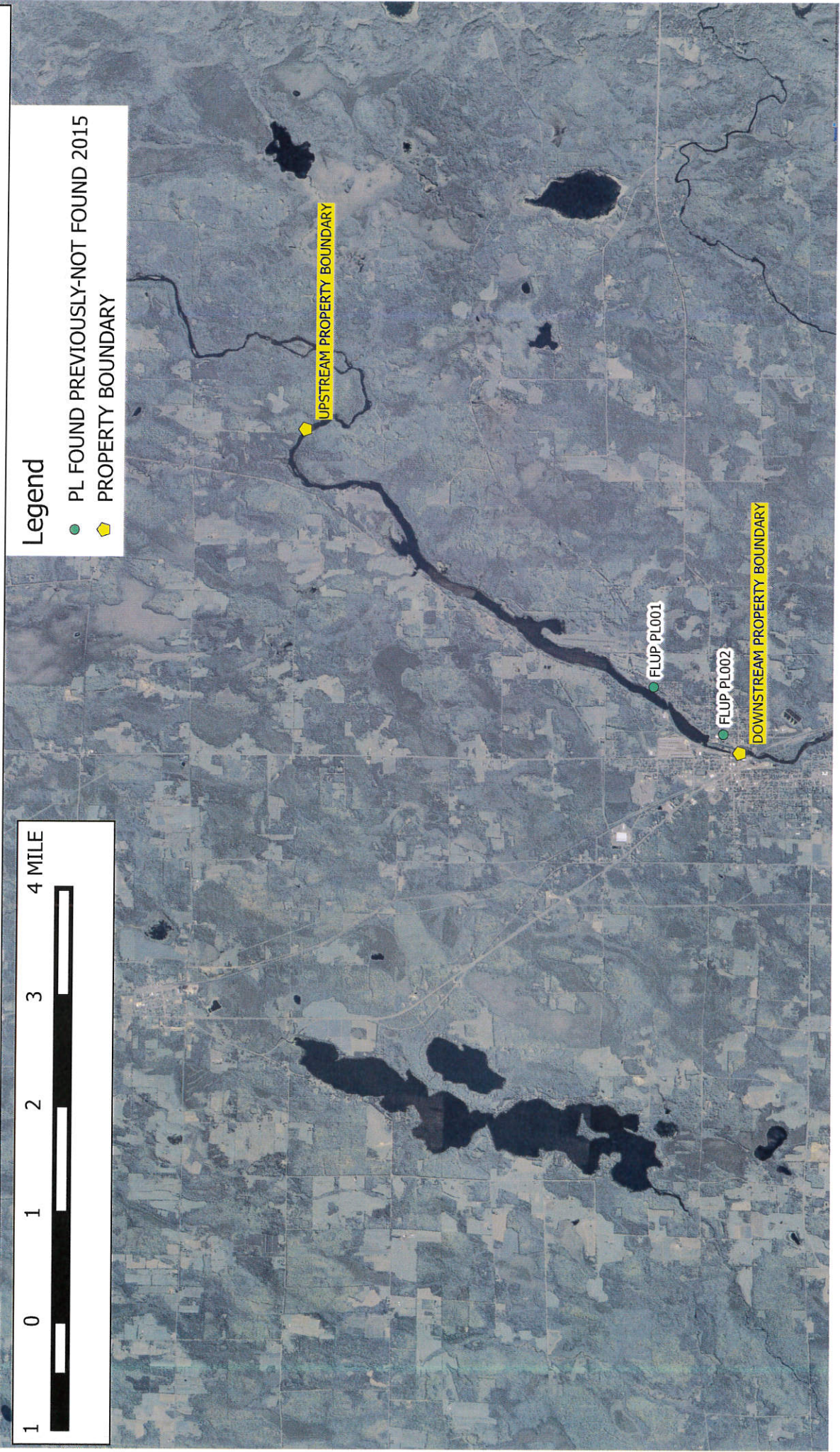
Sighting #	GPS Point	Latitude	Longitude	Plant Height	Stand Area	Comments
1	2 FLUPPL001	N45 56.807'	W90 26.043'	N/A	N/A	No occurrences of purple loosestrife were found within the project boundary in 2015. Located 3 yards bearing 90 degrees (east) of GPS point on residence shore. First observed in 2002, approx. 15-25 plants growing close together. Plants appeared to have 3-5 stems per plant. In 2003 samples were taken of this occurrence along with a recording on video tape. Analysis revealed that the plants were winged loosestrife (Lythrum Alatum) and not purple loosestrife (Lythrum Salacaria). In 2004 the land owner removed the plants. In 2007 the plants reoccurred at this location. During the 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 survey the plants could not be located. This site was videotaped in 2002 and photographed in 2007.
2	246 FLUPPL002	N45 56.157'	W90 26.607'	N/A	N/A	Located on the waypoint in the catwalks at the northwest corner of the electrical sub-station fence, this occurrence was first observed in 2006 and removed. No old cane or damages visible. Reoccurred and pulled again in 2007. During the 2008,2009,2010,2011,2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 survey, no purple loosestrife plants could be located at this site. Plants at this location were photographed in 2006.

FLAMBEAU UPPER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
FERC #2640 PURPLE LOOSTRIFE 2015



Legend

- PL FOUND PREVIOUSLY-NOT FOUND 2015
- ◆ PROPERTY BOUNDARY



Year 2015 Purple Loosetrife Survey

PAGE 1

Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2640

Date: 8/25/15

Conducted By: GARY RAST & JIM TESCH
PROJECT FLOW
595 CFS

HWL: 1486.65

TWL: 1467.60

Time Survey Started: 7:30

Time Survey Ended: 8:00

Weather Conditions: OVERCAST, WINDS NW @ 8MPH, 50°F, +
BAR @ 29.99

Location of Survey Area: Tailrace _____ ^{POWER CANAL} Bypass Reach X Impoundment _____

Time of Sighting(s): N/A

Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates): N/A

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Purple Loosetrife: NONE

Other Species Observed: _____

Other Pertinent Survey Information

Gary RAST

Year 2015 Purple Loosetrife Survey

PAGE 2

Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2640

Date: 8/25/15 Conducted By: GARY RAST & JIM TISCH
 HWL: 1486.65 TWL: 1467.60 PROJECT FLOW 595 CFS
 Time Survey Started: 8:00 Time Survey Ended: 9:00
 Weather Conditions: WINDS N/W @ 9MPH, OVERCAST, 58°F, & BAR @ 30.00
 Location of Survey Area: PORTAGE TRAIL Tailrace Bypass Reach _____ Impoundment _____
 Time of Sighting(s): N/A _____
 Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates): N/A _____

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Purple Loosetrife: NONE

Other Species Observed: _____

Other Pertinent Survey Information

Gary Rast

Year 2015 Purple Loosetrife Survey

Flambeau Upper Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2640

Date: 8/24/15 Conducted By: GARY RAST & JIM TESCH

HWL: 1486.65 TWL: 1467.60 PROJECT FLOW 595 CFS

Time Survey Started: 9:00 AM. Time Survey Ended: 11:45 AM

Weather Conditions: OVERCAST, WINDS NW @ 7 MPH, 50°F, + BAR @ 30.00

Location of Survey Area: Tailrace _____ Bypass Reach _____ Impoundment X

Time of Sighting(s): N/A _____

Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates): N/A _____

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Purple Loosetrife: NONE

Other Species Observed: 1 PAIR OF GEESE, 4 MALLARD DUCKS + 1 EAGLE

Other Pertinent Survey Information

Gary Rast

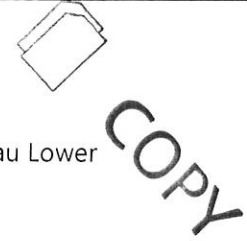


Upper Project PL Survey August 24-25, 2015

Correspondence

Gary Rast

From: Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR <Cheryl.Laatsch@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 10:14 AM
To: Gary Rast; Jason Kreuzcher
Subject: FW: AIS reports for Crowley, Pixley, FLambeau Upper, Flambeau Lower



See below.

We are committed to service excellence.

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

Cheryl Laatsch
Phone: 920-387-7869
Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov

From: Kleist, Jon J - DNR
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 2:15 PM
To: Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR
Cc: Aartila, Tom P - DNR
Subject: RE: AIS reports for Crowley, Pixley, FLambeau Upper, Flambeau Lower

Hi Cheryl,

I reviewed the 4 reports. I do not have any comments. The only reported PL was on Crowley flowage which was reported to be removed by hand (except for one plant) We will see if the hand removal was successful next year.

Let me know if you need anything else

Thanks

Jon

We are committed to service excellence.

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

Jon Kleist
Phone: 715-762-1344
jon.kleist@wisconsin.gov

From: Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 9:02 AM
To: Roesler, Craig P - DNR; Kleist, Jon J - DNR
Cc: Aartila, Tom P - DNR
Subject: AIS reports for Crowley, Pixley, FLambeau Upper, Flambeau Lower
Importance: High

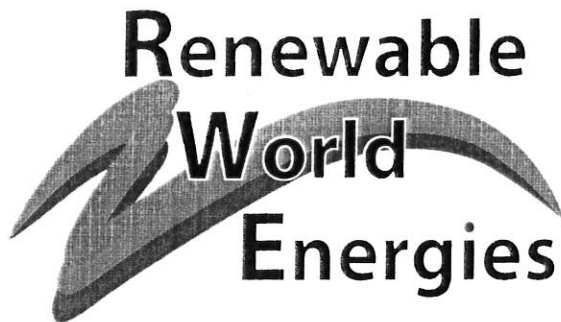
Here are 4 reports from RWE for AIS monitoring. Please take a look and let me know if you have any comments or questions. Please respond by Nov 30. Thanks for your assistance.


We are committed to service excellence.

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

Cheryl Laatsch
Statewide FERC Coordinator – Watershed Bureau/Water Division
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
N7225 Highway 28, Horicon WI 53032
Phone: 920-387-7869
Fax: 920-387-7888
Cheryl.laatsch@wisconsin.gov





 COPY

November 9, 2015

Mr. Nick Utrup
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
W/MN Ecological Services Field Office
4101 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch
Statewide FERC Coordinator
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
N7725 HWY 28
Horicon, WI 53032

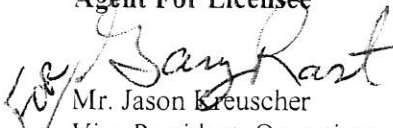
**Re: Flambeau Upper Project FERC # 2640
Flambeau Hydro, LLC
Article 412, 2015 DRAFT Purple Loosestrife Inventory**

Dear Ms. Laatsch, and Mr. Utrup:

Attached you will find a copy of the Flambeau Hydro, LLC "Purple Loosestrife Inventory" for 2015. This annual report has been prepared to comply with the federal hydropower license of the project and article named above. A final copy will be filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with any comments you might add by the end of January.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact Mr. Gary Rast at Renewable World Energies Neshkoro office @ (855)994-9376, ext. 105. He can also be reached via email at grast@rwehydro.com.

Sincerely,
Renewable World Energies, LLC
Agent For Licensee


Mr. Jason Kreuzscher
Vice President, Operations

Attachment: Flambeau Upper 2015 Purple Loosestrife Inventory Draft Report

CC: RWE Corporate

15-11-09 GGR FLUP 2015 P L Inv Draft Rpt To AG

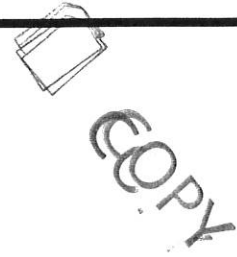
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Norway, MI 49870
Fax: 906-563-9344

Gary Rast

From: Gary Rast
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 9:23 AM
To: 'Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR'; Utrup, Nick
Subject: Draft FLUP 2015 PL Report
Attachments: 15-11-09 GGR FLUP 2015 PL INV DRAFT RPT TO AG.pdf

A diagonal stamp with the word "COPY" in a bold, sans-serif font, accompanied by a small icon of a document with a checkmark.

Cheryl & Nick,

Attached is the 2015 Draft Purple Loosetrife Report for the Flambeau Upper Hydro Project.

Gary

Gary Rast
Regulatory/Compliance Manager



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