

February 21, 2014

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

**Re: Winter Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project Number P-2064
Flambeau Hydro LLC
Final 2013 Land & Wildlife Management Report**

Dear Ms. Bose:

Purpose

On behalf of Flambeau Hydro LLC "Flambeau" (Licensee), Renewable World Energies is submitting its Final 2013 Land & Wildlife Management Report for the Winter Hydroelectric Project. The Final report is the same as the draft report as none of the agencies had us incorporate anything new into the report.

Background

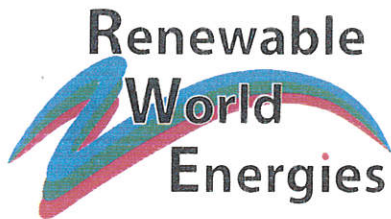
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission "FERC" issued a License to Flambeau on August 12, 2005. Portions of the original Certification were contested by the Licensee. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) submitted a revised Water Quality Certification, Dated at Park Falls, WI: August 19, 2008 that replaced the original certification of June 21, 2005. Only conditions E, F, and J were modified and a footnote was added to condition D according to the Final Settlement Agreement.

The submitted report is a requirement of the License pursuant to Article 404, Forest Service (FS) Condition 10, and WDNR-Water Quality Certification Item Letter P, Q, and R. The Land & Wildlife Management Plan was filed with FERC on December 19, 2008. FERC issued an Order Modifying and Approving the plan on June 3, 2011. At the time of approval the Licensee was directed to consult with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), Forest Service (FS), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).

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



Administrative Office
 1001 Stephenson Street
 Norway, MI 49870
 Phone: 855-99HYDRO
 Fax: 906-563-9344
www.renewableworldenergies.com

(B) Any further change in the Federal status of the gray wolf is to be acknowledged in the report. (The gray wolf is currently delisted in Wisconsin by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). The filing shall also include documentation of consultation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Forest Service (FS), and FWS. The licensee also shall file documentation of non-native invasive species survey results, and the monitoring, control, and mitigation measures agreed to with the FS, upon completion of remaining surveys. Survey results and mitigation measures shall file as part of the annual reporting process described as part of the plan. Documentation of consultation with the FS is to be included in the filing. The Commission reserves the right to make changes to this plan based upon the licensee's filings and agency comments received on the reports

(C) The licensee shall employ a biologist trained in the identification of the appropriate non-native invasive species and Regional Forester Sensitive Species and Management Indicator Species, as specified by the plan, to identify the appropriate species, or to educate other licensee staff.

Invasive Species Consultation

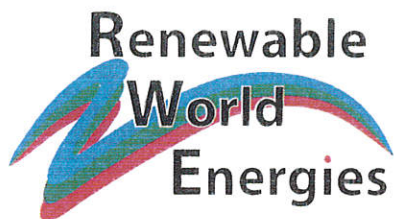
During the 2013 season Flambeau Hydro, LLC was in contact with Steven Spickerman Plant Ecologist for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. They had a crew that was going to help eradicate the invasive honeysuckle growing near the powerhouse and on the canoe portage trail on the Winter Project property. Unfortunately, they ran out of time to treat the honeysuckle at Winter Dam this year when they got tied up with a fire out west. In correspondence with Sue Reinecke of the FS she stated that Steven has the eradication efforts on his 2014 program of work.

At the end of August Flambeau Hydro, LLC hired Asplundh to spray the Winter canal banks to control the vegetation growing there including the honeysuckles.

Conclusion

Draft copies of the Winter Land and Wildlife Report were sent to the Forest Service, WI DNR, and US Fish and Wildlife Service on December 23, 2013 to invite comments. On January 14, 2014 the FS sent back an email saying they had no comments. The FWS has not sent back comments. On January 28, 2014 Ms. Cheryl Laatsch of the WI DNR sent an email saying no comments also. All agency emails received are attached in Appendix 1.

The Licensee's staff Regulatory/Compliance Manager has a B.S. in Forest Administration with a minor in Natural Resources Management from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. He and another staff member are certified as completing the Wisconsin DNR Karner Blue Butterfly HCP Monitoring Training. He attended and has certificates of completion of a WI-DNR Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop on June 28, 29, 30, 2011. He also has attended a "Getting to Know Your Local Trees & Invasive Plants" class sponsored by the University of Wisconsin Extension. The licensee's staff consults agencies on a regular basis concerning identification and environmental issues.



Administrative Office
1001 Stephenson Street
Norway, MI 49870
Phone: 855-99HYDRO
Fax: 906-563-9344
www.renewableworldenergies.com

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact Mr. Gary Rast at the Renewable World Energies LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 ext. 105, or by email at; grast@rwehydro.com. An alternate contact is Aneta Rietveld at the Renewable World Energies LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 ext. 108, or by email at; arietveld@rwehydro.com.

Sincerely,
Renewable World Energies, LLC
Agent for Licensee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Kreuzscher", is written over the printed name.

For: Mr. Jason Kreuzscher
Vice President Operations

Attachment: Final 2013 Land & Wildlife Management Report – February 21, 2014

Cc: RWE Corporate
Mr. Peter Fasbender
Ms. Cheryl Laatsch
Mr. Paul Strong

FINAL

2013 LAND & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT REPORT (Per FERC License Article 404)

**Per USDA Forest Service 4(e) Condition 10
Per WDNR Revised 401 Water Quality Certification Item Letter P, Q, R**

Winter Hydroelectric Project FERC Project #2064 Flambeau Hydro, LLC

East Fork of the Chippewa River, Sawyer County, Wisconsin

Respectfully Submitted by:

Renewable World Energies
100 South State Street
Neshkoro, Wisconsin 54960

Final- February 21, 2014

Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
I	Plan Requirements & Approval	3
	1. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission License Article 404	4
	2. USDA Forest Service 4 (e) Condition 10.....	5
	3. WDNR 401 Certification Item Letter P, Q, R.....	6
	4. FERC Plan Approval.....	7
II	Description of Winter Project	8
	Project Description.....	9
III	Project Drawings	10
	Winter Hydroelectric Project Boundary—	
	Exhibit G Figure G-1.....	11
	Forest Service Lands at the Winter Project.....	12
IV	Land & Wildlife Survey Results	13
	1. Bald Eagle.....	14
	2. Gray Wolf.....	14
	3. Wood Turtle.....	14
	4. Non Native Invasive Species	15
	5. Purple Loosestrife.....	16
	6. Land Disturbance & Erosion Control.....	17
	7. Zebra Mussels.....	18
	8. Standards and Guidelines.....	18
	9. Survey Documents.....	19
	Wood Turtle	
	Invasive Species/Erosion	

Appendices

Appendix 1	Agency Correspondence.....	20
-------------------	----------------------------	----

I
Plan Requirements & Approval

1. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license on August 12, 2005 to Flambeau Hydro LLC. The license is for the continued operation and maintenance of the 600 KW Winter Project (No. 2064), located in Sawyer County on the East Fork of the Chippewa River. As such, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission incorporated the following requirement into the new license:

FERC License Article 404 - Land and Wildlife Management Plan

Within six months of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to manage land and wildlife at the project. The plan shall be prepared after consultation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Wisconsin DNR), the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Measures to protect threatened and endangered species (i.e., bald eagle, gray wolf) at the project, as well as other wildlife habitat of concern, shall be included in the land and wildlife management plan. In addition, the plan shall include guidelines for the managing vegetation, habitat, and ground-disturbing activities in accordance with condition 10 in appendix B of this license, and shall be consistent with the bald eagle and gray wolf management guidelines of the FWS, Forest Service, and Wisconsin DNR. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- 1. Procedures for obtaining and documenting bald eagle nesting activity and the presence of gray wolves on an annual basis, and for maintaining the information on project maps for use when planning land disturbing activities such as vegetation control or recreation facility development;*
- 2. Consultation with the Wisconsin DNR, Forest Service, and FWS prior to conducting land disturbing activities that could affect any of the threatened and endangered species using project land;*
- 3. Measures to protect Regional Forester Sensitive Species and Management Indicator Species; and*
- 4. Measures to control erosion from trails, parking lots and shoreline areas; and; annual consultation with the resource agencies to allow for periodic management plan updates and to obtain agency input regarding proposed management decisions.*

The licensee shall include with the land and wildlife management plan documentation of agency consultation, including copies of agency comments and recommendations on the draft plan, and specific descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations, before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. The land and Wildlife management plan shall not be implemented until the licensee is notified that the plan is approved. Upon approval, the licensee shall implement the plan according to the approved schedule, including any changes required by the Commission.

2. Attached to the FERC License, and as Appendix B, are the USDA Forest Service Conditions. As such the USDA Forest Service incorporated the following condition into the FERC License:

USDA Forest Service Condition No. 10 – Vegetation, Habitat and Ground-disturbing Activities on National Forest System Lands

Within one year of license issuance or at least 90 days prior to vegetation, habitat, and/or ground-disturbing activity, whichever comes first the Licensee shall file with the Commission a Vegetation, Habitat, and Ground-Disturbing Management Plan (Plan) that is approved by the Forest Service. The Plan shall be site specific and be prepared in consultation with the appropriate Federal and State resource agencies for all tree or vegetation removal, habitat, and/or ground-disturbing activities on, or effecting, National Forest System lands.

The Plan shall implement measures to prevent the Spread of non-native invasive species; minimize erosion as well as sedimentation; protect, mitigate, or enhance terrestrial and fisheries habitat; and provide for adaptive management measures based on prescribed monitoring objectives over the life of the license. The Licensee shall not file any such plans with the Commission or commence any such activities without written approval from the USDA Forest Service.

At a minimum, and where relevant, the Plan shall include the following provisions:

Notification to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest before the Licensee begins any vegetation or ground disturbing work;

The Licensee's plan shall comply with USDA Forest Service and Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest sensitive species and non-native invasive species management guidelines and protocols, including prevention, control, and monitoring protocols;

Identification of methods for prevention and control of non-native invasive species. Treatment of existing infestations of highest priority non-native invasive species shall be initiated immediately upon completion of appropriate National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation and approval of the Plan by the Commission;

Notification to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest upon the Licensee finding new locations for any listed non-native invasive species and/or prior to any independent actions at non-native invasive species control efforts;

Timing to establish vegetation of disturbed soils as soon as possible;

Identification and prioritization of any erosion areas to be re-vegetated or rehabilitated; Procedures for identification of additional measures that the Licensee shall implement if monitoring reveals that re-vegetation and vegetation control is not successful or does not meet intended objectives;

Disclosure of any temporary habitat and/or ground-disturbing measures the Licensee will use;

A list of species to be used, planting location, and site preparation methods.

Emphasis shall be to use native species and to follow the Forest's Land and Recourse Management Plan as well as the Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management practices for Water Quality,

Identification of measures the Licensee will use to mitigate project effects on terrestrial and aquatic habitat including any identified habitat threats, as well as measures designed to enhance habitat, including restoration of wetland, riparian, and aquatic systems;
Be updated to meet standards and guidelines that are applicable to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest;
Be updated as new information is obtained in consultation with the agencies and submit the updated plan to the Forest Service and Commission for approval;
A monitoring program to evaluate the effectiveness of re-vegetation, vegetation control and/or non-native invasive species control measures; and
Identify a timeline for accomplishing plan objectives.

3. Attached to the FERC License, and as Appendix A, are the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) 401 Revised Water Quality Certification Dated at Park Falls WI: August 19, 2008 Item Letter P, Q, and R. As such the WDNR incorporated the following conditions into the FERC License:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 401 Water Quality Certification Item Letter P, Q, and R

*P. The licensee shall annually inspect the entire shoreline of the project waters for purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and map its distribution and relative abundance. Inspections should be scheduled in August while plants are flowering so purple loosestrife can be readily identified. The licensee should submit a report of the monitoring results to the Department by December 31 each year. If the Department deems it necessary to initiate or expand efforts to control purple loosestrife in the East Fork Chippewa River, the licensee shall provide reasonable cooperation in those efforts.*

Q. The licensee shall monitor the shoreline of the project reservoir, power canal, tailrace, and bypassed channel for erosion, and if necessary, prepare an erosion control plan in consultation with the Department. Inspections should be conducted at three-year intervals in spring before vegetation develops, so eroded areas can be readily identified. The licensee shall submit to the Department a report of monitoring results by December 31 in the year of each inspection.

R. Before engaging in any activity that may introduce zebra mussels into project waters, the licensee shall provide or demand (through contract clause or other binding agreement) evidence of effective decontamination of barges, tools, boats, construction equipment, or other items capable of transferring water containing larval or adult zebra mussels. Effective decontamination may include steam-cleaning, chemical treatment, physical treatment, or other suitable procedures.

4. FERC PLAN APPROVAL

The Land and Wildlife Management was submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission December 19, 2008. It was approved by an *Order Modifying And Approving Land And Wildlife Management Plan Issued June 3, 2011*.

II
Description of Winter Hydroelectric Project

Project Description

The project is located on the East Fork of the Chippewa River, near the town of Winter, in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The Project reservoir has been determined to be approximately 30 acres at the project's normal pool elevation. The USDA Forest Service portion of the reservoir, as defined to the natural thread of the river, would amount to a very tiny area of approximately 15 acres. Additionally, there are approximately 11 tiny acres of USDA Forest Service lands below the dam, making the total acreage of Federal lands at the project to be approximately only 26 acres.

The overall configuration of the project is as follows:

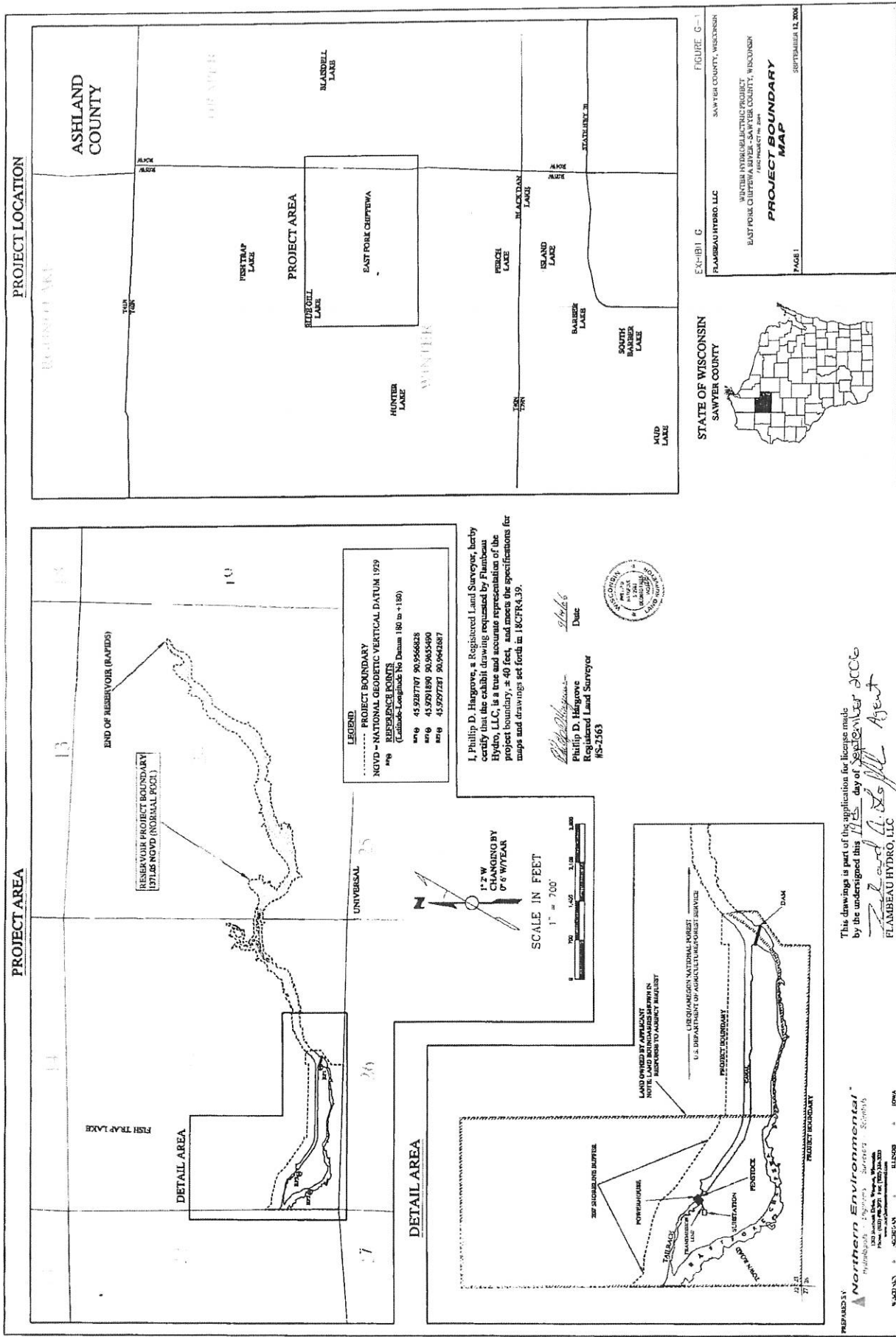
- Diversion Dam: A 14-foot-high, 140 foot-long concrete dam section (8 bays total) with steel gates on top of wooden stop logs in 7 bays and one bay with a 6'x16' steel lift gate operated with an electric motor and mechanical ball-screw. The diversion dam allows the water to be apportioned either to the by-passed reach or down the power canal and into the hydroelectric units.
- Power Canal: The power canal consists of earth embankments and is approximately 2,100 feet in length. The canal is approximately 20 feet wide at the bottom and has flanked earth embankments to retain the water.
- Intake Structure: The intake structures consist of reinforced concrete structure housing a common intake rack that conveys water to (2) two 5 foot – 6 inch penstock tubes.
- Powerhouse and the Tailrace: The powerhouse is a concrete structure (with a total of 24.5 feet of head) that houses two generators coupled to vertical Francis turbines. Unit 1 has a load capacity of 200 KW, and with a 174 CFS flow capacity. Unit 2 has a load capacity of 400 KW, with a 224 CFS flow capacity. The tailrace of the powerhouse is approximately 700 feet in length.
- USDA Forest Service Lands: The Forest Service lands are approximately 300 feet wide by 1600 feet long, or approximately 11 acres. However, this 300 foot strip includes; ½ of the river, the Diversion Dam, the Project's power canal, the diversion dam's access road and the left and right embankments for the power canal. (please refer to the Plan's map; Forest Service Lands at the Winter Project)

III Project Drawings

Winter Hydroelectric Project Boundary
Exhibit G - Figure G-1

Forest Service Lands at the Winter Project

Winter Hydroelectric Project Boundary
Exhibit G - Figure G-1



This drawing is part of the application for license made by the undersigned this 17th day of September 2013.

Richard G. S. Miller Agent
FLAMBEAU HYDRO, LLC

PREPARED BY: Northern EnvironmentalTM
 2070 10th Avenue S.W.
 P.O. Box 1000
 Grand Rapids, MI 49501-1000
 Phone: (616) 882-0000 Fax: (616) 882-0000
 E-Mail: info@northernenv.com
 WWW.NORthernENV.COM

EXHIBIT G

FLAMBEAU HYDRO, LLC

SAWYER COUNTY, WISCONSIN

FIGURE G-1

WINTER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
 EAST FORK CREEK FERRIS DAM - SAWYER COUNTY, WISCONSIN
 (Not Projected In This Map)

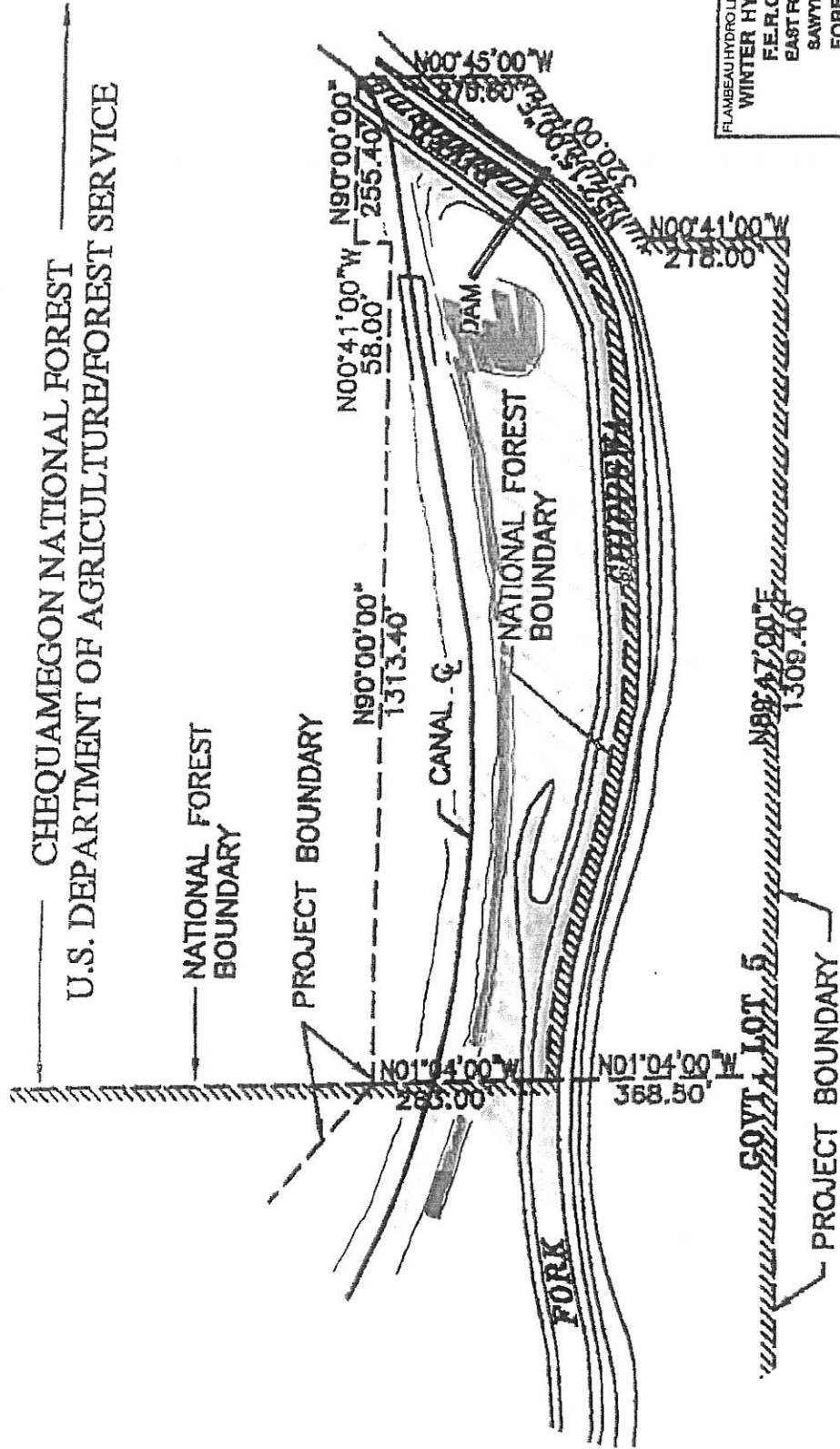
PROJECT BOUNDARY MAP




PAGE 1

SEPTEMBER 12, 2013



Forest Service Lands at the Winter Project



	POWER CANAL EMBANKMENT AND TOE AREA
	POWER CANAL/ EAST FORK RIVER
	DIVERSION DAM ACCESS ROAD

FLAMBEAU HYDRO LLC
SAWYER COUNTY, WISCONSIN
WINTER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
 F.E.R.C. PROJECT NO. 2064
 EAST FORK OF CHIPPEWA RIVER
 SAWYER COUNTY, WISCONSIN
 FOREST SERVICE LANDS
 AT
 THE WINTER PROJECT

IV
Land & Wildlife Survey Results

1. Bald Eagle

There are not results to report as no formal surveys were conducted for the Bald Eagle at the Winter Hydro Project in 2013 per approved plan. Agencies will be notified should any Eagle Nests be found located within the project boundary.

2. Gray Wolf

There are no results to report as no formal surveys were conducted for the Gray Wolf the Winter Hydro Project in 2013 per approved plan. The Gray Wolf was delisted at the time of submittal of the Land and Wildlife Management Plan. It was re-listed July 1, 2009 as Threatened and Endangered in Wisconsin by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), then delisted again on January 27, 2012.

3. Wood Turtle

The annual Wood Turtle survey was conducted at the Winter Hydro Project on June 10, 2013 by Gary Rast, . The survey started at 11:45 a.m. and ended at 4:30 p.m. for a total survey time of 4 hours and 45 minutes. The survey was divided into 3 sections consisting of the Tailrace (11:45 a.m. -12:30 p.m. on foot), Bypass Reach (12:30 – 1:45 p.m. on foot), and Impoundment (1:45 – 4:30 p.m. by boat). Conditions for the survey were good. Temperatures were in the low 70's, calm to slightly breezy, and mostly cloudy throughout the entire survey. Project log sheet records indicated a HWL of 1370.56 MSL and TWL of 1347.76 MSL. No sightings of Wood Turtles were noted. However, other species were observed and included:

- Various Song Birds
- Swallows
- 1 unknown turtle

Survey documents and photos may be found at the end of the report under the section titled Survey Documents page 21.

4. Non Native Invasive Species

This section of the report includes survey results for species such as:

- Asiatic Honeysuckles, *Lonicera tartarica*, *L. morrowii*, and *L. x bella*
- Buckthorns, *Rhamnus cathartica* and *R. frangula*
- Curly Pondweed, *Potamogeton crispus*
- Garlic Mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*
- Eurasian Water Milfoil, *Myriophyllum spicatum*
- Japanese Knotweed, *Polygonum cuspidatum*
- Purple Loosestrife, *Lythrum salicaria*

It was agreed upon during Agency consultation and during the development of the Final Land and Wildlife Management Plan that these surveys could all be conducted concurrently. However, the Final Plan devoted a separate section to Purple Loosestrife which will be addressed in the next section of the report.

The survey was conducted by Mr. Gary Rast and Aneta Rietveld of RWE on August 13, 2013. The Tailrace and Bypass Reach was surveyed (12:30 -1:25 p.m. on foot), and the Impoundment 1:25 -4:00 p.m. by boat).

The weather conditions during the survey were partly sunny with a temperature of 65 degrees F.

Honeysuckle was observed on the Tailrace Canoe Portage Trail and Fishing Access Trail as well as on the Bypass Reach Roadway to dam. Photos were taken again this year. None of the other invasive species were noted during this survey.

Survey documents and photos may be found at the end of the report under the section titled Survey Documents page 19.

5. Purple Loosestrife

On August 13, 2013, Flambeau Hydro, LLC (FHLLC) performed an inventory of purple loosestrife plants at the Winter Project in Sawyer County, Wisconsin. The method of inventory was defined as follows:

While Purple Loosestrife is blooming in July and August, the inventory should be conducted using a boat to survey the impoundment above the dam within the Project Boundary and on foot 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, stem density, plant density, and location with reference to established GPS coordinates. Photos and/or videotape may be taken of the largest occurrences.

Example:

GPS point CLRVPL001; Location Lat N45° 54.493' Lon W92° 31.128';
Plant height 2' – 6'; Density ~5' X 50' ~40 plants single & multi-stem;
Comments: Insect damage observed. Seed heads removed. Photos. No Video.

The area to be inventoried shall be the shoreline of the impoundment and lands owned by FHLLC within the Project Boundary as indicated on the Project Boundary Map G-1, as filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

General Observations:

The Winter Project Boundary was divided into three different areas; *the impoundment* (from the Winter powerhouse to the upstream project boundary, approximately 2.10 miles upstream), *FHLLC owned property within the project boundary* (FHLLC owned property adjacent to the dam and powerhouse), *the tailrace/bypass reach* (from the powerhouse to a point approximately 595 feet downstream, including the 3,028-foot long bypass reach area from the spillway to the downstream project boundary).

The tailrace/bypass reach was surveyed on foot (Tailrace and By-Pass Reach 12:30 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.) and no purple loosestrife plants were observed.

The FHLLC owned property within the project boundary was surveyed on foot (12:50 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.) and no purple loosestrife plants were observed.

The impoundment was surveyed by boat beginning at 1:25 p.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. WNTRPL001 was not seen this year. WNTRPL002 / WNTRPL003 were located in a marshy low lying peninsula of grasses and cattails adjacent to the river (see included photo). This season only 3 clumps of short PL were seen. These are not in a navigable section of the river, so they were not pulled. WNTRPL004 was not seen this year. The survey crew proceeded upstream outside of the project boundary as during previous surveys to explore if any plants existed that may be contributing to the infestation by spreading seeds downstream into the impoundment. The 2010 survey had revealed four areas of blooming purple loosestrife plants located ~240 yards upstream from the project boundary. This site, (WNTRPLNA01) was checked out on foot and no Purple Loosestrife was observed in 2013.

The prior purple loosestrife plants were inventoried and have been noted on the survey sheet(s) and map(s) at the end of this report under survey documents (page 19) with notations added for 2013. No other occurrences of purple loosestrife were observed.

During the inventory, a Digital Camera, Laser Rangefinder, GPS, and 2 pair of binoculars were used to document occurrences of purple loosestrife as noted in the survey comments at the end of this report.

A vegetation survey dated 1999 and included in Exhibit E of the Application for New License for the Winter Hydroelectric Plant and filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) was used as an aid in a 2008 baseline purple loosestrife survey.

6. Land Disturbance & Erosion Control

Erosion

Monitoring of erosion is a requirement of Section Q of the Water Quality Certification for the Winter Project and reads as follows:

- Q. The licensee shall monitor the shoreline of the project reservoir, power canal, tailrace, and bypassed channel for erosion, and if necessary, prepare an erosion control plan in consultation with the Department. Inspections should be conducted at three-year intervals in spring before vegetation develops, so eroded areas can be readily identified. The licensee shall submit to the Department a report of monitoring results by December 31 in the year of each inspection.

The next erosion survey will be done in 2014 and be added to the 2014 land and wildlife report.

7. Zebra Mussels

No Zebra Mussels were observed during the Wood Turtle survey performed during 2013. At the end of the survey the boat and trailer were cleaned with a 10% bleach solution applied by sprayer.

8. Standards and Guidelines

Flambeau Hydro LLC realizes that during the term of the license, applicable standards and guidelines for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest may change. So that the Plan can be updated and accommodate new information as it is obtained, Flambeau Hydro LLC will formally consult with the Forest Service every five (5) years to update the plan accordingly during the term of the License. The table below shows the schedule the consultation process will follow. The first formal consultation will take place in 2013.

Year	Formal Consultation
2013	Yes
2018	Yes
2023	Yes
2028	Yes
2033	Yes
2038	Yes

Under standards and guidelines (number 9) of the Land and Wildlife Management Plan 2013 was the first year for a formal consultation between FHLLC and Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Service. During a phone conference call between Aneta Rietveld (RWE, Environmental Quality), Steven Spickerman (Forest Service, Plant Ecologist), and Sue Reineke (Forest Service, Fisheries Biologist) both agreed that there were no new standards and guidelines added for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest during the last 5 years that RWE has not already addressed in their plan. They agreed that no changes need to be made to the Land and Wildlife Management Plan. RWE Hydro will continue to follow the plan as written unless a new environmental concern is brought to our attention before the next 5 year formal consultation.

SURVEY DOCUMENTS

WOOD TURTLE

Wood Turtle Survey Form
Winter Hydroelectric Project - FERC # 2064

Date: 6/10/13

Conducted By: GARY RAST

Time Survey Started: 11:45

Time Survey Ended: 12:30

Weather Conditions: WIND VARIABLE @ 3MPH, MOSTLY CLOUDY,
70°F, BAR=29.85

Location of Survey Area: Tailrace Bypass Reach Impoundment

Time of Sighting(s): N/A

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

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Sex of Turtles Sighted: Male Female Unknown

Total # Turtles Sighted: NONE

Other Species Observed: NONE

Other Pertinent Survey Information

HWL - 1370.56 TWL - 1347.76 CFS - 818

TAILRACE PHOTOS - 3-11

Gary Rast

Wood Turtle Survey Form
Winter Hydroelectric Project - FERC # 2064

Date: 6/10/13

Conducted By: GARY RAST

Time Survey Started: 12:30

Time Survey Ended: 1:45

Weather Conditions: WIND SW 6MPH, OVERCAST, 70°F, DIR=292

Location of Survey Area: Tailrace Bypass Reach Impoundment

Time of Sighting(s): N/A

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

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Sex of Turtles Sighted: Male Female Unknown

Total # Turtles Sighted: NONE

Other Species Observed: NONE

Other Pertinent Survey Information

HWL-1370.56 TWL-1347.76 CRB-818

ByPASS PHOTOS -12-19

Gary Rast

Wood Turtle Survey Form Winter Hydroelectric Project - FERC # 2064

Date: 6/10/13

Conducted By: GARY RAST & JIM TESCH

Time Survey Started: 2:30

Time Survey Ended: 4:30

Weather Conditions: MOSTLY CLOUDY, CALM, 73°F, BAC= 29.23

Location of Survey Area: Tailrace Bypass Reach Impoundment

Time of Sighting(s): NONE

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

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Sex of Turtles Sighted: Male Female Unknown

Total # Turtles Sighted: NONE

Other Species Observed: 1 TURTLE (UNKNOWN) SWALLOW
SONG BIRDS

Other Pertinent Survey Information

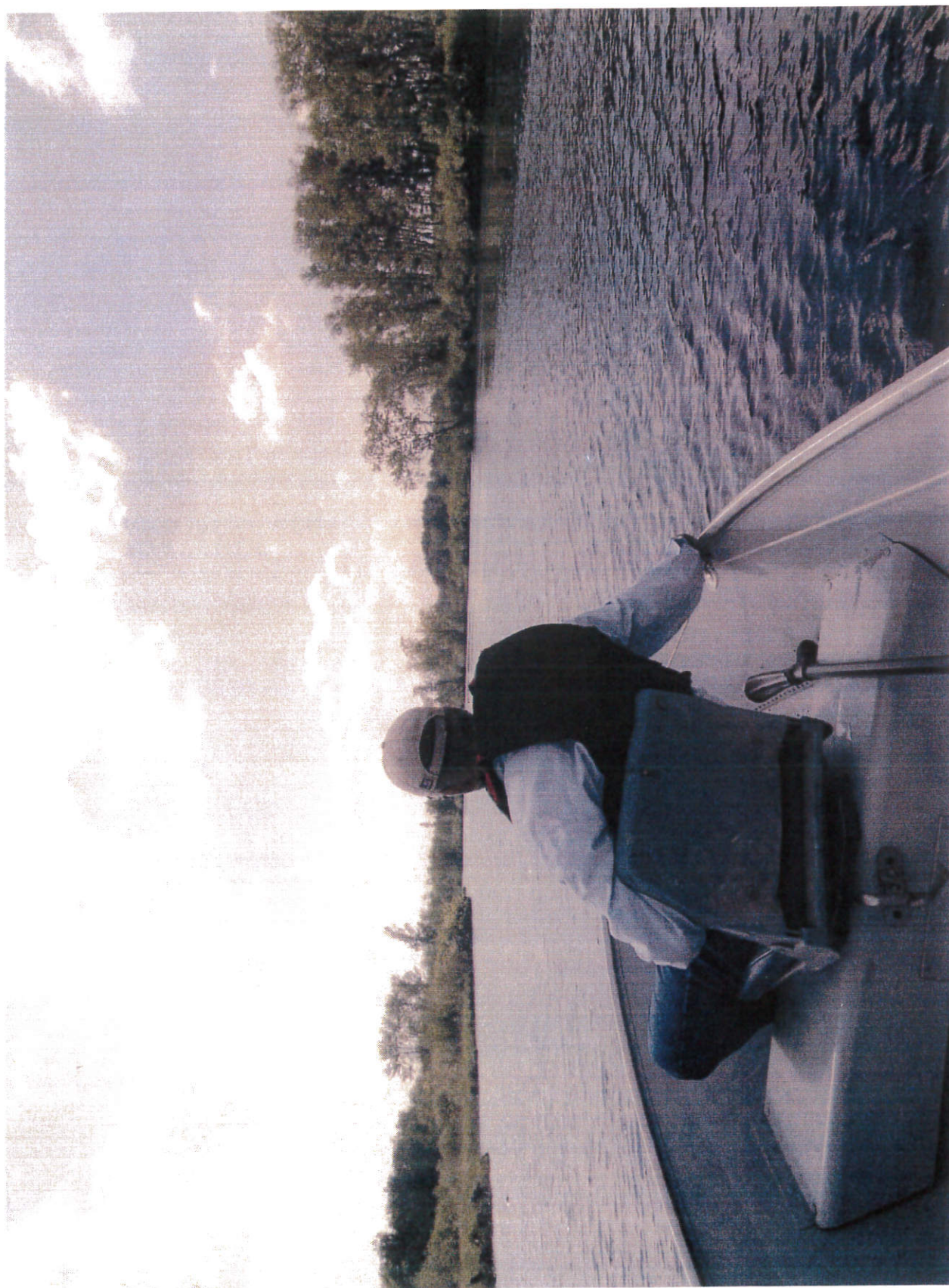
HWL-1370.56 TWL-1347.76 CFS-818

IMPOUNDMENT PHOTOS - 1-8

Gary Rast



Winter Bypass



Conducting Wood Turtle/Erosion Survey



Winter Tailrace

INVASIVES

Year 2013 Invasive Species/Erosion Survey

Winter Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2064

Date: 8-13-13 Conducted By: AKR GGR

HWL: 1370.11 TWL: 1344.20 35 CFS

Time Survey Started: 12:30 Time Survey Ended: 12:50

Weather Conditions: 65° partly sunny

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

Time of Sighting(s): _____

Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates): _____

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Asiatic Honeysuckles: Lonicera tartarica _____ L. morrowii _____ L. x bella _____

Buckthorns: Rhamnus carthartica _____ R. frangula _____

Curly Pondweed: _____ Garlic Mustard _____ Eurasian Water Milfoil _____

Japanese Knotweed: _____ Purple Loosestrife _____

Erosion: _____ (Photos Taken) Yes _____ No _____

Other Species Observed: _____

Other Pertinent Survey Information

Year 2013 Invasive Species/Erosion Survey

Winter Hydroelectric Project - FERC # 2064

Date: 8-13-13 Conducted By: AKR GGR

HWL: 1370.11 TWL: 1344.20 35 cfs

Time Survey Started: 12:50 Time Survey Ended: 1:25

Weather Conditions: 65° partly sunny

Location of Survey Area: Tailrace Bypass Reach _____ Impoundment _____

Time of Sighting(s): _____

Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates): _____

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Asiatic Honeysuckles: Both orange & red varietal types
Lonicera tartarica _____ L. morrowii _____ L. x bella _____

Buckthorns: Rhamnus carthartica _____ R. frangula _____

Curly Pondweed: _____ Garlic Mustard _____ Eurasian Water Milfoil _____

Japanese Knotweed: _____ Purple Loosestrife _____

Erosion: _____ (Photos Taken) Yes _____ No _____

Other Species Observed: _____

Other Pertinent Survey Information

Honeysuckles - same as last year - FS will be spraying

Year 2013 Invasive Species/Erosion Survey

Winter Hydroelectric Project – FERC # 2064

Date: 8-13-13 Conducted By: AKR GGR

HWL: 1370.11 TWL: 1344.20 35 cfs

Time Survey Started: 1:25 Time Survey Ended: 4:00

Weather Conditions: 65° partly sunny

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

Time of Sighting(s): _____

Location of Sighting(s) (GPS Coordinates): _____

(Attach Photos & Map if Applicable)

Asiatic Honeysuckles: Lonicera tartarica _____ L. morrowii _____ L. x bella _____

Buckthorns: Rhamnus carthartica _____ R. frangula _____

Curly Pondweed: _____ Garlic Mustard _____ Eurasian Water Milfoil _____

Japanese Knotweed: _____ Purple Loosestrife yes - see survey sheet

Erosion: _____ (Photos Taken) Yes _____ No X

Other Species Observed: _____

Other Pertinent Survey Information

shorter PL flower spikes and taller grass made for more difficult viewing.

no other invasives seen on the impoundment



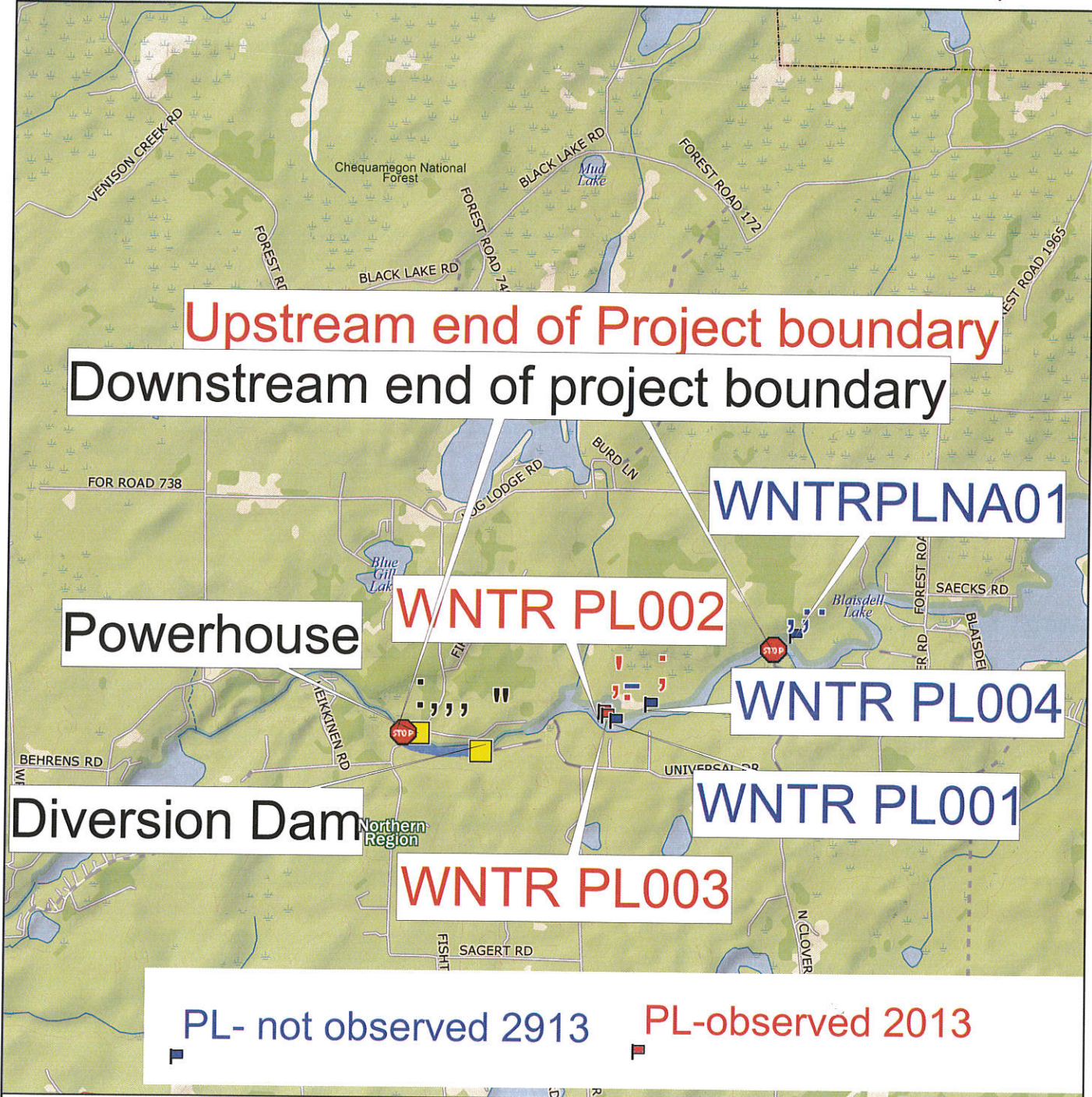
Red berry honeysuckle along the road



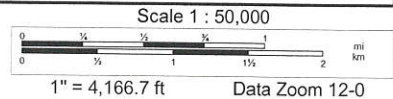
Orange berry honeysuckle along the road



Honeysuckle along the portage trail



Winter Project, Purple Loosestrife Location Map 2013
Winter WI FERC #2064



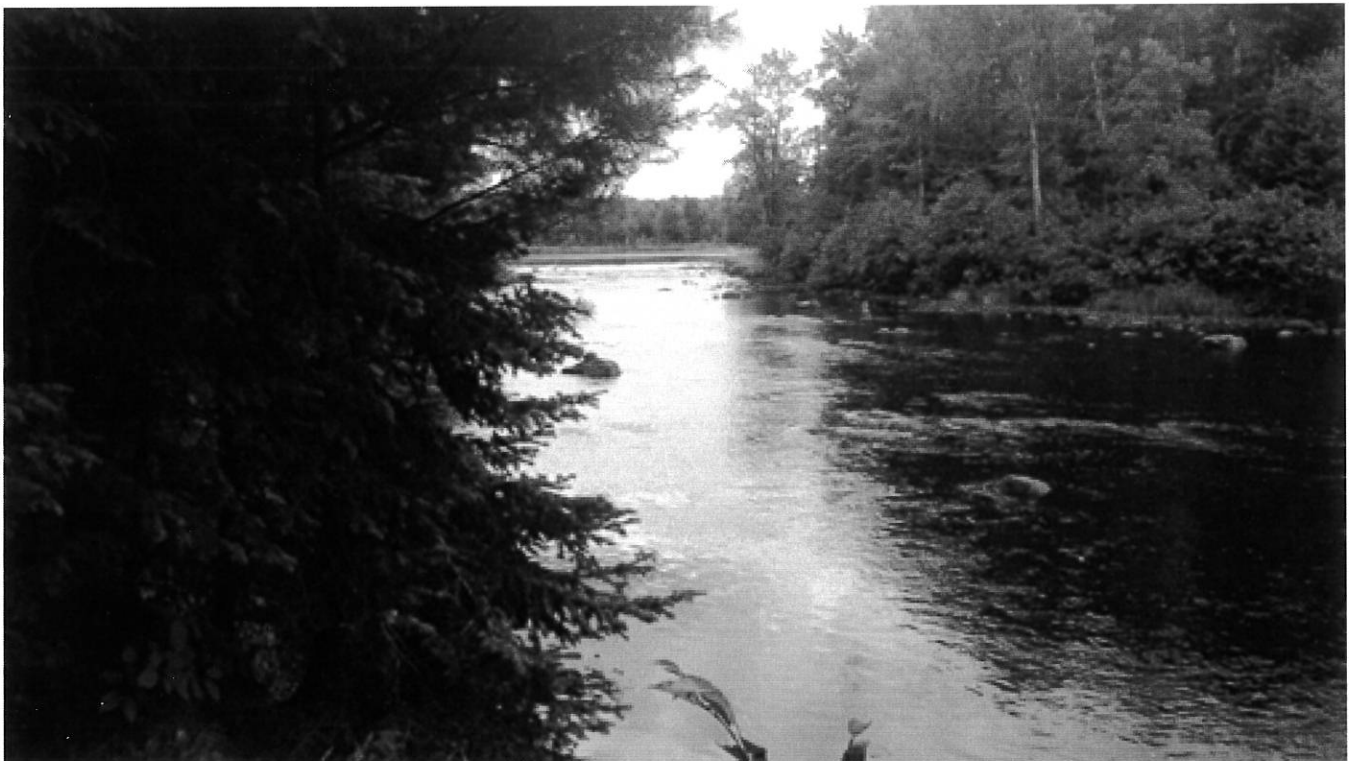
Purple Loosestrife Survey Project: Winter #2064 Date : 8-13-2013 Crew: GGR ,AKR Datum: WGS 84

Sighting #	GPS Point	Latitude	Longitude	Plant Height	Stand Area	Comments
1	WNTR PL001	N45 55.827'	W90 56.572	4'	N/A	First observed in 2007. Located on the right side of the river ~4050 ft. upstream from the diversion dam. Seed heads cut in 2007. No treatment in 2008. No plants observed in 2009, 2010, and 2011. Boat was not able to get close enough for treatment in 2012. 2013 - none seen-marsh grasses were very tall.
2&3	WNTR PL002 WNTR PL003	N45 55.868 N45 55.851	W90 56.650 W90 56.628	4'	~120' X 200' 3 Groups of plants	First observed in 2007. Located on the right side of the river ~3700 ft. upstream from the diversion dam. Beginning in 2009, sites PL002 and PL003 were grouped as one continuous site due to the close proximity of the sites. In 2010 some old cane was visible with no new growth within it. None were seen in 2011. No treatment 2008-2013. Photo taken in 2012 -full bloom. No beetle damage observed. 2013- in the middle of tall wetland grasses-could only see the flower spikes from a distance(no photos-too far away)
4	WNTR PL004	N45 55.904	W90 56.347	1-3' plant 4' plant	1- N/A	First observed in 2010. Located on the right side of the river and ~5130 ft. upstream of the diversion dam. No old cane and no treatment in 2010 and nothing observed or treated in 2011. No beetle damage observed in 2012 and no treatment. Not seen in 2013(grasses were very tall)

5	WNTRPLNA01	N45 56.225 estimated location	W90 55.392 estimated location	N/A	N/A	First observed in 2007-photos taken . Right side of river. This site was ~240 yds. upstream of the project boundary limits and could not be reached by boat due to rapids. In 2010 only 4 areas of blooming plants were observed at this site.No treatment in 2008 to 2011. In 2012 and 2013 no blooming plants were observed.
---	------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-----	-----	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



2013 purple loosestrife survey day



2013 view of upstream boundary- no loosestrife seen

APPENDIX

1

Aneta Rietveld

From: Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR <Cheryl.Laatsch@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 4:17 PM
To: Gary Rast; Aneta Rietveld
Cc: Nick_Utrup@fws.gov
Subject: FW: Draft 2013 Land And Wildlife Management report

WDNR comments below.

From: Magana, Ryan J - DNR
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 4:15 PM
To: Laatsch, Cheryl - DNR
Subject: RE: Draft 2013 Land And Wildlife Management report

Cheryl – No comments. We also have not observed any eagle nests along the project boundary. Although the Chippewa River has the characteristics of an ideal wood turtle stream, we have not located any specimens on this river either.

Thanks for passing this along to me.

RJM

Ryan J. Magana

Northern Region Ecologist

Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
810 W. Maple St.
Spooner WI 54801

Phone: 715-635-4153

e-mail: Ryan.Magana@wisconsin.gov

Aneta Rietveld

From: Reinecke, Sue -FS <sreinecke@fs.fed.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 7:33 AM
To: Aneta Rietveld
Cc: Reinecke, Sue -FS; Jeffrey.Scheirer@Wisconsin.gov; Nick_Utrup@fws.gov
Subject: RE: Draft 2013 Land And Wildlife Management report

Happy New Year Aneta, we have reviewed the draft 2013 Winter Land and Wildlife Management report and have no comments. I checked with Steven Spickerman on 1/13/14 and due to western fire commitments in august his crew was not able to get to the honeysuckle. Steven has it on his program of work for summer 2014 and will continue to work with RWE on NNIS issues at the winter site.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thanks
sue

Sue Reinecke, Forest Fisheries Biologist
Chequamegon-Nicolet NF
1170 4th Ave South
Park Falls, WI 54552
715-762-5185
sreinecke@fs.fed.us

From: Aneta Rietveld [<mailto:arietveld@rwehydro.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 26, 2013 11:48 AM
To: Peter Fasbender@fws.gov; Cheryl.Laatsch@Wisconsin.gov; Strong, Paul -FS
Cc: Reinecke, Sue -FS; 'nick_utrup@fws.gov'; Higgins, Dale -FS
Subject: Draft 2013 Land And Wildlife Management report

Dear agencies,
You will find attached the electronic copy of Draft 2013 Winter Land and Wildlife Management report. Please look it over and provide me with any comments when you get a chance. I will be filing this with FERC and include any comments by the end of February. Have a great New Year. Sincerely,

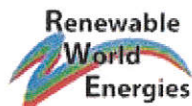
Aneta Rietveld
RWE Hydro
Phone (906)828-0808 ext 108
Cell(920)293-1251

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the

Aneta Rietveld

From: Gary Rast
Sent: Thursday, August 01, 2013 9:45 AM
To: Jason Kreuzscher; David Anderson; Aneta Rietveld
Subject: FW: Winter Dam Honeysuckle

Gary Rast
Regulatory/Compliance Manager



Renewable World Energies, LLC
100 S. State Street
P.O. Box 264
Neshkoro, WI 54960
Phone: 855-994-9376 Ext. 105
Fax: 920-293-4100
Cell: 920-570-0995
E-mail: grast@rwehydro.com

From: Spickerman, Steven -FS [<mailto:sspickerman@fs.fed.us>]
Sent: Thursday, August 01, 2013 9:42 AM
To: Gary Rast
Subject: RE: Winter Dam Honeysuckle

Costs shouldn't be a concern, I'll cover herbicide and labor. After spending a day really looking at the site, I think most of the shrubs will be spayed in place (base bark treatment) and not cut or removed. Those plants in highly visible spots will be cut as low to the ground as possible, the stumps sprayed, and the slash pulled into the surrounding forest to decompose.

Right now, most of my crew is either in Montana or Oregon fighting forest fires and won't be available for the next few weeks but when they return, we'll have a chance to get it done.

Steven Spickerman
Plant Ecologist
Great Divide Ranger District
Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest
715-264-2511

From: Gary Rast [<mailto:grast@rwehydro.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 01, 2013 9:27 AM
To: Spickerman, Steven -FS; Aneta Rietveld

Cc: Jason Kreuscher; David Anderson
Subject: RE: Winter Dam Honeysuckle

Steven,

Any more thoughts on the issue or when it would take place?

Gary

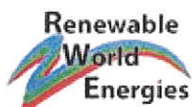
From: Gary Rast
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 9:24 AM
To: 'Spickerman, Steven -FS'; Aneta Rietveld
Cc: 'Jason Kreuscher'; David Anderson
Subject: RE: Winter Dam Honeysuckle

Steven,

I talked to Jason (VP of Operations) copied above and we would be open to a combination of treatments. Costs are a concern to us so I will need to discuss with management for final ok. Once that is done and we all agree, you may speak to Dave Anderson who is the Flambeau Central Region Manager (copied above) for our company about the treatment and the slash. We could burn it in the winter. Dave lives at the Arpin Project and his Cell # is 920-765-4089 or Home # 715-945-3471. Thanks and look forward to hearing from you.

Gary

Gary Rast
Regulatory/Compliance Manager



Renewable World Energies, LLC
100 S. State Street
P.O. Box 264
Neshkoro, WI 54960
Phone: 855-994-9376 Ext. 105
Fax: 920-293-4100
Cell: 920-570-0995
E-mail: grast@rwehydro.com

From: Gary Rast
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 8:54 AM
To: 'Spickerman, Steven -FS'; Aneta Rietveld
Cc: 'Jason Kreuscher'
Subject: RE: Winter Dam Honeysuckle

Steven,

I'd say option two would be best. Any ideas on cost to us if any?

Gary

Gary Rast
Regulatory/Compliance Manager



Renewable World Energies, LLC
100 S. State Street
P.O. Box 264
Neshkoro, WI 54960
Phone: 855-994-9376 Ext. 105
Fax: 920-293-4100
Cell: 920-570-0995
E-mail: grast@rwehydro.com

From: Spickerman, Steven -FS [<mailto:sspickerman@fs.fed.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 8:25 AM
To: Gary Rast; Aneta Rietveld
Subject: Winter Dam Honeysuckle

Good morning,

I'm working out the schedule for honeysuckle removal at the Winter Dam site.

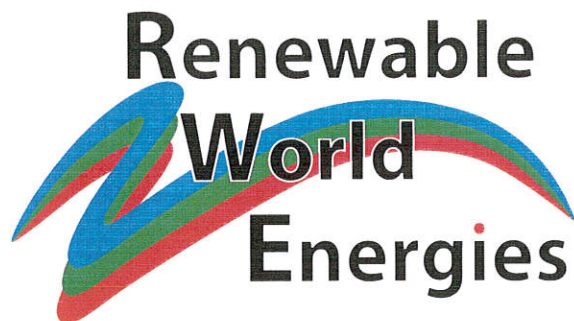
We can go two ways with treatment. Option one is to cut all honeysuckle, remove slash, and treat the cut stumps with herbicide. This option will take more man power and time (at least one week, maybe two), require a place(s) to pile slash and/or some way to remove the slash such as a loader and dump truck (would still need a place to take it to) or a large industrial chipper (I might have access to one). Option two is to leave most of the thick, large diameter honeysuckle in place and treat with a basal bark herbicide treatment. This kills the shrub where it stands. It means no or little disposal logistics/problems but leaves a lot of material on site. This option would likely take one or two days to complete.

Any thoughts since this is your property? If it were National Forest, I'd likely do a bit of both, removing the most visible honeysuckle (such as right along the road, near the dam, parking area, etc) and leaving in place the stuff visitors can't readily see. If we were to do that, is there a place that we could pile slash? Thanks and have a good 4th.

Steven Spickerman
Plant Ecologist
Great Divide Ranger District
Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest
715-264-2511

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the

**PROOF OF
DRAFT
REPORT
TO AGENCIES**



December 23, 2013

Mr. Peter Fasbender
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2661 Scott Tower Drive
New Franken, WI 54229

Mr. Paul Strong, Forest Supervisor
USDA Forest Service Chequamegon Nicolet NF
Forest Headquarters Offices
500 Hanson Lake Road
Rhineland, WI 54501

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch
Water Regulations & Zoning Specialist
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
P O Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

**Re: Winter Hydroelectric Project
FERC Project Number P-2064
Flambeau Hydro LLC
Draft Report 2013 Land & Wildlife Management Report**

Dear Agencies:

Purpose

On behalf of Flambeau Hydro LLC "Flambeau" (Licensee), Renewable World Energies is submitting an electronic copy of the Draft Report 2013 Land & Wildlife Management Report for the Winter Hydroelectric Project for review and comment.

Background

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission "FERC" issued a License to Flambeau on August 12, 2005. Portions of the original Certification were contested by the Licensee. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) submitted a revised Water Quality Certification, Dated at Park Falls, WI:

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



Administrative Office
1001 Stephenson Street
Norway, MI 49870
Phone: 855-99HYDRO
Fax: 906-563-9344
www.renewableworldenergies.com

August 19, 2008 that replaced the original certification of June 21, 2005. Only conditions E, F, and J were modified and a footnote was added to condition D according to the Final Settlement Agreement.

The submitted report is a requirement of the License pursuant to Article 404, Forest Service (FS) Condition 10, and WDNR Water Quality Certification Item Letter P, Q, and R. The Land & Wildlife Management Plan was filed with FERC on December 19, 2008. FERC issued an Order Modifying and Approving the plan on June 3, 2011.

Invasive Species Consultation

During the 2013 season Flambeau Hydro, LLC was in contact with Steven Spickerman Plant Ecologist for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. They were to treat the invasive honeysuckle near the tailrace and along the canoe portage trail by spraying in place (basal bark treatment.) during the 2013 growing season. A phone call to him on December 23, 2013 revealed that their crew didn't make it back from their firefighting in Montana until after the season was over. Steven stated that it is top priority for next season. Email correspondence is attached under appendix 1.

One part of the project was sprayed for invasives during the 2013 season. Flambeau Hydro contracted with Asplundh at the end of August to spray the canal banks with a mix of Garlon 3A, DMA 4, and Chemsurf 90 to kill all of the vegetation including the honeysuckles growing there.

Conclusion

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations allow for a 30 day formal review and comment period. Thank you in advance for providing your responses in a timely manner so we can include your comments and recommendations, as appropriate, into our report which the Licensee must file by March 1, 2014 with the FERC.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact Mr. Gary Rast at the Renewable World Energies LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 ext. 105, or by email at; grast@rwehydro.com. An alternate contact is Aneta Rietveld at the Renewable World Energies LLC offices @ 855-994-9376 ext. 108, or by email at; arietveld@rwehydro.com.



Administrative Office
1001 Stephenson Street
Norway, MI 49870
Phone: 855-99HYDRO
Fax: 906-563-9344
www.renewableworldenergies.com

Sincerely,
Renewable World Energies, LLC
Agent for Licensee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Kreuzscher", written over a horizontal line.

For: Mr. Jason Kreuzscher
Vice President Operations

Attachment: Draft Report 2013 Land & Wildlife Management Report – December 23, 2013

Cc: RWE Corporate
Sue Reinecke, FS
Dale Higgins, FS
Nick Utrup, US FWS

Document Content(s)

14-02-21 2013 WNTR Final Land and Wildlife report.PDF.....1-51