


Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street
P.O. Box 19001
Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

www.wisconsinpublicservice.com

December 22, 2017

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington DC 20425

Dear Ms. Bose:

SUBJECT: Invasive Species Monitoring Plan

<u>Hydro</u>	<u>FERC Project No.</u>	<u>NATDAM No.</u>	<u>License Article</u>
Petenwell	1984	WI00740	408
Castle Rock	1984	WI00724	408

In accordance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order Approving the Revised Invasive Species Monitoring Plan for the Petenwell and Castle Rock Hydroelectric Project (Project) issued on July 13, 2005 and the Order Amending Purple Loosestrife Control Measures issued July 9, 2009, Wisconsin River Power Company (WRPCO) is required to file the purple loosestrife (PL) monitoring reports to FERC by December 31 of the corresponding year a survey has been completed.

2017 Purple Loosestrife Survey Results

A survey for PL was completed on August 2 and August 23, 2017. Twenty-eight colonies of PL were identified at the Petenwell and Castle Rock Hydroelectric Projects. Of the twenty-eight colonies, fifteen were small or medium colonies and were completely hand pulled and disposed of offsite. No colonies were sprayed to avoid adverse impacts to existing or potential new populations of *Galerucella species* beetles. Appendix A includes the 2017 PL survey results and figures.

In 2017, approximately 4,000 *Galerucella species* beetles were released, roughly 2,000 beetles in two different locations to supplement existing beetle populations. WRPCO observed beetle feeding on twenty-four of the twenty-eight identified colonies.

WRPCO proposes to continue monitoring for PL and releasing a minimum total of 4,000 beetles in at least two separate locations as a biological control method in an attempt to establish healthy beetle populations throughout the Project. WRPCO will complete the next PL survey in 2018, in conjunction with the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) survey.

2017 Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey Results

In accordance with the Plan, EWM surveys are completed once every three years, with the next survey scheduled for 2018.

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose
December 22, 2017
Page 2 of 2

A copy of this report was submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on October 31, 2017. FWS provided documentation that they had no comments. The WDNR did not provide any comments. Documentation of Consultation is located in Appendix B. In the interest of paperwork reduction, redundant materials are not included in the Documentation of Consultation.

Should you have any questions relative to this material, please do not hesitate to contact Jes Roloff at (920) 433-5558 or email at JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com.

Sincerely,



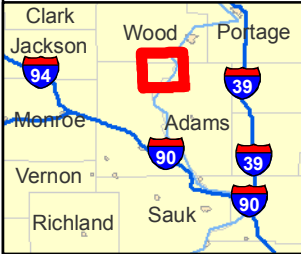
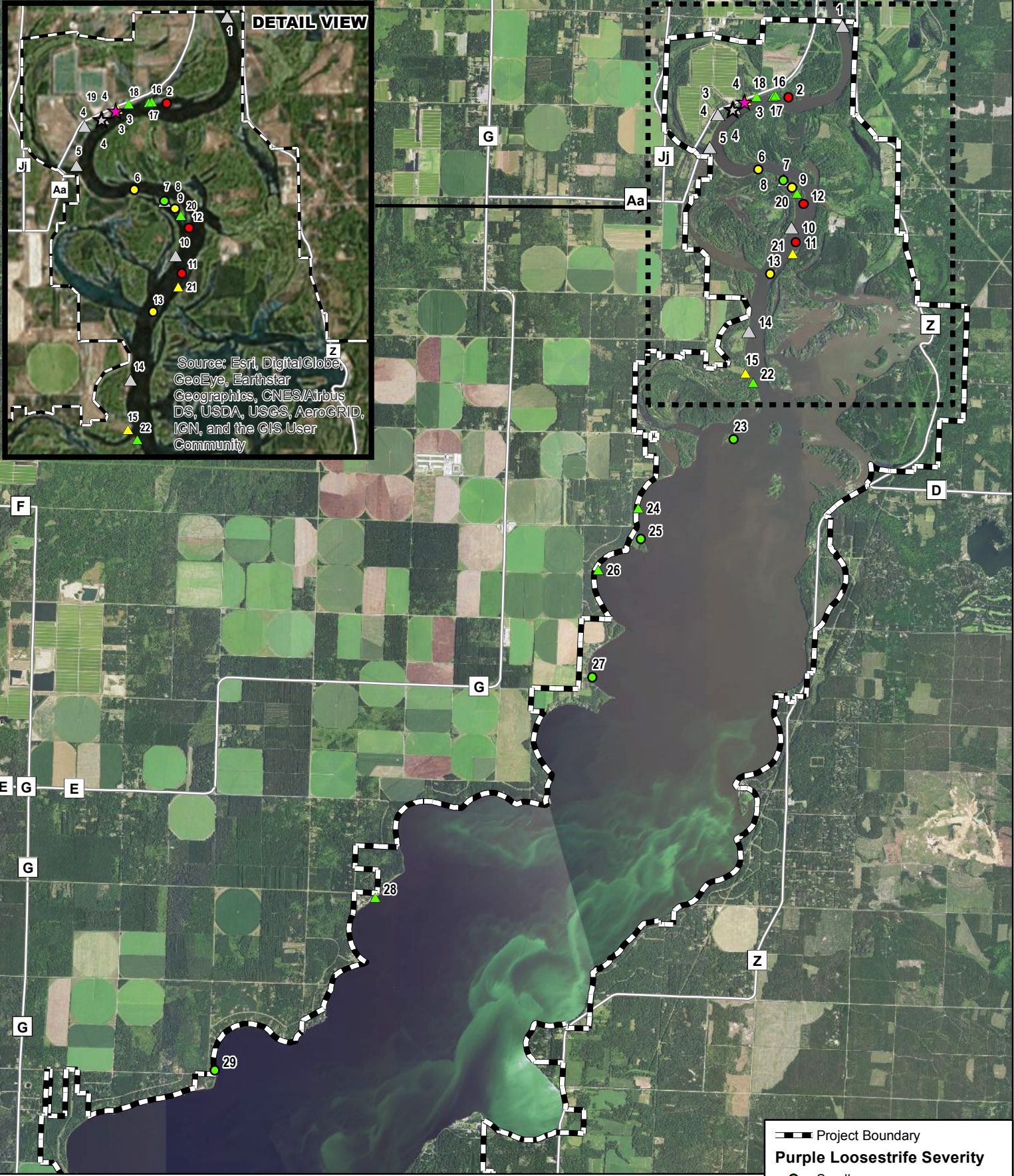
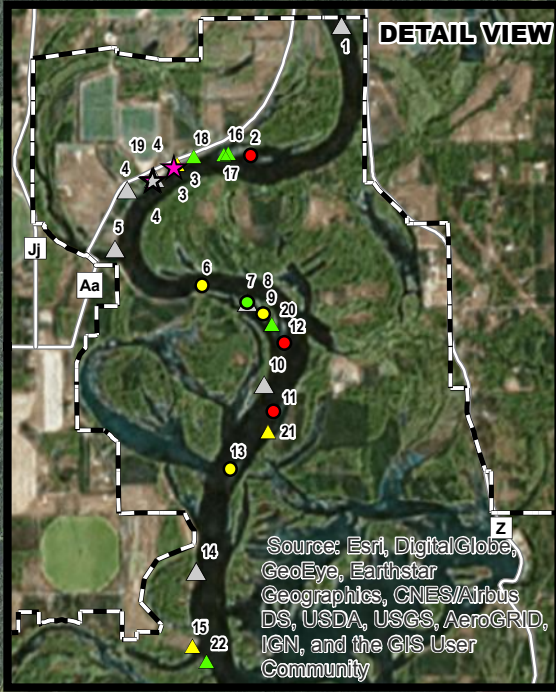
Todd P. Jastremski
Asset Manager Hydro Operations
We Energies
800 Industrial Park Drive
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

JRR/rjv

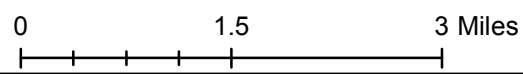
Enc: Appendix A - 2017 Purple Loosestrife Survey Figures and Data (6 pages)
Appendix B - Documentation of Consultation (13 pages)

cc: Ms. Cheryl Laatsch, WDNR
Mr. Nicholas Utrup, USFWS
Mr. John Zygaj, FERC - CRO

APPENDIX A
2017 PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE FIGURES AND DATA



**Wisconsin River Power Company
Petenwell Flowage
Purple Loosestrife Survey - 2017**



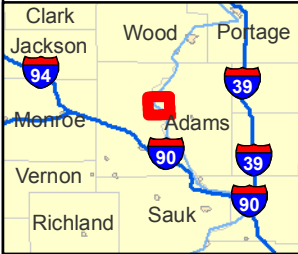
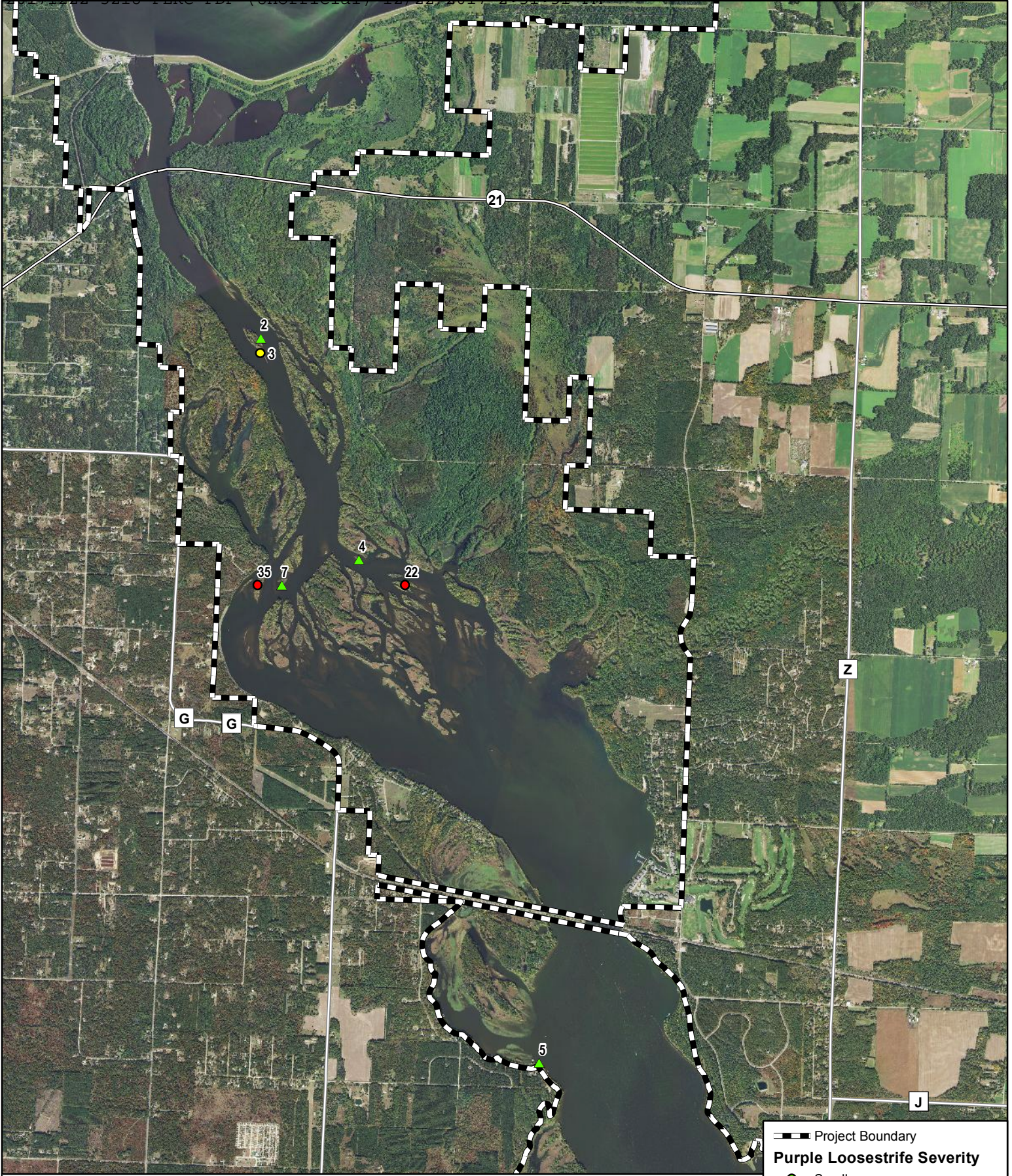
— Project Boundary

Purple Loosestrife Severity

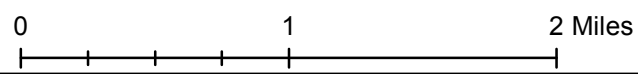
- Small
- ▲ Small; Pulled all plants
- Medium
- ▲ Medium; Pulled all plants
- Large
- ▲ No longer able to identify
- ★ Beetle Release Site

N
↑

Date: 10/23/2017



**Wisconsin River Power Company
Castle Rock Flowage
Purple Loosestrife Survey - 2017**



Project Boundary
Purple Loosestrife Severity
 Small
 Small; Pulled all plants
 Medium
 Medium; Pulled all plants
 Large
 No longer able to identify
 Beetle Release Site
 Date: 10/24/2017

2017 Purple Loosestrife Survey Form

Hydroelectric project: Petenwell and Castle Rock Hydroelectric Project

Beetle Release Date: June 21, 2017

Petenwell Inspection date: August 23, 2017

Castle Rock Inspection date: August 2, 2017

Colony ID #	Colony Size S 0-5 M 6-50 L >50	General Plant Vigor			Total Plant Vigor 10-12 = good 7-9 = fair 4-6 = poor 0-3 = very poor	Notes	GPS Point
		Plant Height 4 = >4ft 3 = 2-4ft 2 = 1-2ft 1 = <1ft	Plant Flowering 4 = 100% of plants 3 = 51-99% of plants 2 = 26-50% of plants 1 = <25% of plants	Beetle Feeding 5 = 0% feeding 4 = 1 - 25% feeding 3 = 26-50% feeding 2 = 51-75% feeding 1 = >76% feeding			
1		No Longer Able To Identify					1092 (old point)
2	L >50	4	3	3	10	2018 beetle release site.	1649
3		No Longer Able To Identify.				Released 1,000 beetles.	1109 & 1091 (old point)
4		No Longer Able To Identify.				Released 3,000 beetles.	1110, 1111, 1094 (old point)
5		No Longer Able To Identify					930 (old point)
6	M 6-50	3	2	3	8		1644
7		No Longer Able To Identify					1096 (old point)
8	S 0-5	3	3	3	9		1643
9	M 6-50	3	2	2	7		Did not GPS
10		No Longer Able To Identify					924 (old point)
11	L >50	3	2	2	7		1640
12	L >50	4	3	2	9		1641
13	M 6-50	3	3	3	9		1638
14		No Longer Able To Identify					1099 (old point)
15	M 6-50	2	2	3	7	Pulled all plants.	1637
16	S 0-5	3	3	4	10	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1648

2017 Purple Loosestrife Survey Form

Hydroelectric project: Petenwell and Castle Rock Hydroelectric Project

Beetle Release Date: June 21, 2017

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Castle Rock Inspection date: August 2, 2017

		General Plant Vigor					
Colony ID #	Colony Size S 0-5 M 6-50 L >50	Plant Height 4 = >4ft 3 = 2-4ft 2 = 1-2ft 1 = <1ft	Plant Flowering 4 = 100% of plants 3 = 51-99% of plants 2 = 26-50% of plants 1 = <25% of plants	Beetle Feeding 5 = 0% feeding 4 = 1 - 25% feeding 3 = 26-50% feeding 2 = 51-75% feeding 1 = >76% feeding	Total Plant Vigor 10-12 = good 7-9 = fair 4-6 = poor 0-3 = very poor	Notes	GPS Point
17	S 0-5	4	3	5	12	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1647
18	S 0-5	4	2	4	10	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1646
19	M 6-50	4	2	4	10	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1645
20	S 0-5	3	2	3	8	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1642
21	M 6-50	3	3	3	9	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1639
22	S 0-5	4	3	4	11	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1636
23	S 0-5	3	3	4	10	NEW.	1635
24	S 0-5	3	3	4	10	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1634
25	S 0-5	2	2	4	8	NEW.	1633
26	S 0-5	4	4	4	12	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1632
27	S 0-5	3	3	5			16311
28	S 0-5	4	3	4	11	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1629
29	S 0-5	4	3	4	11	Need shovel to remove roots.	1650
30	No Longer Able to Identify						22 (old point) Castle Rock
31	S 0-5	4	3	4	11	NEW. Pulled all plants.	1750 Castle Rock

**APPENDIX B
DOCUMENTATION OF CONSULTATION**



Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street
P.O. Box 19001
Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

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October 24, 2017

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

Dear Ms. Laatsch:

Invasive Species Monitoring Plan

<u>Hydro</u>	<u>FERC Project No.</u>	<u>NATDAM No.</u>	<u>License Article</u>
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2017 Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey Results

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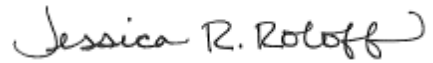
Ms. Cheryl Laatsch

October 24, 2017

Page 2 of 2

Please provide any comments you may have regarding this report within 30 days. Should you have any questions relative to this material, please do not hesitate to contact me at (920) 433-5558 or JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica R. Roloff".

Jes Roloff
Environmental Consultant

Enclosures

IN THE INTEREST OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION, REDUNDANT MATERIALS ARE NOT INCLUDED

NO COMMENTS RECEIVED BY THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES


Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

700 North Adams Street
P.O. Box 19001
Green Bay, WI 54307-9001

www.wisconsinpublicservice.com

October 24, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Utrup:

Invasive Species Monitoring Plan

<u>Hydro</u>	<u>FERC Project No.</u>	<u>NATDAM No.</u>	<u>License Article</u>
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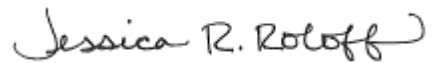
Mr. Nicholas Utrup

October 24, 2017

Page 2 of 2

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica R. Roloff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Jes Roloff
Environmental Consultant

Enclosures

IN THE INTEREST OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION, REDUNDANT MATERIALS ARE NOT INCLUDED

COMMENTS RECEIVED BY THE US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Roloff, Jessica R

From: Utrup, Nick <nick_utrup@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2017 6:45 AM
To: Roloff, Jessica R
Subject: Re: Invasive Species Monitoring Reports

WARNING: This email was sent from an external address. Exercise caution when opening links or attachments.
Thanks Jes, I don't have any comments.

Nick

Nick Utrup
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Minnesota/Wisconsin Field Office
4101 American Boulevard East
Bloomington, MN 55425

Office: (952) 252-0092 Ext. 204
FAX: (952) 646-2873
Email: Nick_Utrup@fws.gov

On Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 3:23 PM, Roloff, Jessica R <JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com> wrote:

Hi Nick,

I just realized that the due dates I gave for the invasive comments fell on the Holiday weekend. That was not intentional. I was just counting 30 days from when I sent the reports and even though I could obviously see "Thanksgiving" on my calendar; it didn't register!

If you do have comments please feel free to take till the end of the month.

Thanks,

Jes Roloff

Environmental Consultant

WEC Energy Group – Business Services

office : 920-433-5558

fax : 920-433-1176

email: JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com

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From: Roloff, Jessica R
Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 1:06 PM
To: 'nick_utrup@fws.gov'
Subject: Invasive Species Monitoring Reports

Good Afternoon Nick,

I just wanted to send a friendly reminder that comments on the Hydro Electric Project Invasive Species Monitoring Reports for Petenwell and Castle Rock are due by Friday, November 24; Grand Rapids is due by Saturday, November 25; and Wausau is due by Monday, November 27. Please let me know if you have any comments or questions on the reports that were sent last month that you would like included in our final reports to FERC in December.

I appreciate your time.

Thank you

Jes Roloff

Environmental Consultant

WEC Energy Group – Business Services

office : 920-433-5558

fax : 920-433-1176

email: JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com

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From: Roloff, Jessica R
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 3:12 PM
To: nick_utrup@fws.gov
Subject: WRPCO Invasive Species Monitoring Report

Good Afternoon Mr. Utrup,

In accordance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order Approving the Revised Invasive Species Monitoring Plan for the Petenwell and Castle Rock Hydroelectric Project issued on July 13, 2005 and the Order Amending Purple Loosestrife Control Measures issued July 9, 2009, Wisconsin River Power Company (WRPCO) is to provide monitoring reports of the purple loosestrife (PL) surveys to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) by October 31, each year a survey has been completed. Please see attached for the monitoring reports.

Please provide any comments you may have regarding this report within 30 days. Should you have any questions relative to this material, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jes Roloff

Environmental Consultant

WEC Energy Group – Business Services

office : 920-433-5558

fax : 920-433-1176

email: JRRoloff@integrysgroup.com

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