

CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY

General Offices
610 High Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
A subsidiary of Verso Corporation

October 14, 2021

Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

(VIA ELECTRONIC FILING)

Stevens Point Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2110 – Article 405, Exotic Species Biennial Monitoring Report – 2020/2021

Dear Secretary:

In accordance with the order approving the Exotic Species Control Plan, Consolidated Water Power Company (CWPCo) is filing the biennial monitoring report for 2020/2021.

CWPCo conducted monitoring during the summers of 2020 (vehicle during July 19-27 and boat July 24th) and 2021 (vehicle July 18th week and boat July 21st) for the Project. Currently, there are twelve sites monitored, of which purple loosestrife was observed at 2 sites (3 and 6) in 2020 and 3 sites (5, 6, 10) in 2021, which is similar to 2018/2019 period and down from 5 sites in the 2016/17 period. The 2020/21 sites were all documented with beetle activity. No new sites have been identified since 2013. Overall, the total purple loosestrife plant counts indicate a slight downward trend when compared to previous biennial reports which is attributed to the heavy beetle activity impacts for sites 6 and 11.

This report provides a Google Earth based coordinate system for reporting the purple loosestrife locations which was initiated in the 2014/15 biennial report. CWPCo feels the Google Earth coordinate system is more universal for tracking the purple loosestrife colonies.

Administered 2020/21 biennial purple loosestrife control methods were:

1. For smaller colonies (less than 5 plants) without observed beetle activity – removed plants to best extent possible and disposed of plants in landfill.
2. For colonies ranging from 6 – 50 plants with observed beetle activity – either
 - a. removed flower tops as best as possible for landfill, leaving rest of plant for beetles to feed on and populate.
 - b. removed flower tops as best as possible for landfill, leaving rest of plant for beetles to feed on and populate. No raised beetle pots were applied in this biennial period for the Stevens Point project

No observations of curly-leaf pondweed or zebra mussels were noted. One observation for Eurasian water milfoil was located in the 1st Lake area (site #10, Google Earth coordinates 44 degrees, 34', 21" North and 89 degrees, 39', 35" West) with no change from the 2013-19 population observation. Current milfoil levels do not demonstrate any significant negative effects towards fish or wildlife populations with the Project.

CWPCo operating and maintenance personnel do informal monitor during routine activities and did not observe the presence of zebra mussels during the reporting period. The informal monitoring includes activities such as hydro turbine repairs, trashrack intake cleaning, gate operations (April – November), safety buoy usage and dry, exposed shoreline observations.

CWPCo continues to provide information about invasive species (PUBL-WM-250-95) with the distribution of our recreational brochures. The brochures are free to the public.

If there are any questions, please feel to contact us at 715-422-3927 or email tom.witt@versoco.com.

Sincerely,

CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY

Thomas J. Witt

Thomas J. Witt
Resources Manager

cc: File (Stevens Point, LG-90-30, Article 405)

Ms. Cheryl Laatsch, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, WI (email)

Mr. Nick Utrup, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Minneapolis, MN (email)

Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Data - Years 2010 to 2021

Table 1 – Purple Loosestrife Monitoring Site Data

Stevens Point Hydroelectric Project – Purple Loosestrife Monitoring 2010 to 2021

Site No	Description	Google Earth GPS Coordinates (degrees)	Plt Density	Beetle Activity	Chem Applied	Action Taken
1	Small island In center of main reservoir	Lat 44.548, Long -89.621	5 plts 3 plts None None None	Heavy Heavy	No No	2010 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2011 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2012/13 – no plants 2014/15 – no plants 2016/19 – no plants
2	Small island NW of main reservoir near main channel	Lat 44.545, Long -89.637	15 plts 12 plts 8 plts None None None	Heavy Heavy Heavy	No No No	2010 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2011 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2012 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 – no plants 2014/15 – no plants 2016/21 – no plants
3	Sand bar south of Site #2	Lat 44.544, Long -89.635	12 plts 9 plts 6 plts None None None 4 plts 3 plts 3 plts None	Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy	No No No No No No	2010 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2011 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2012 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 – no plants 2014/15 – no plants 2016/17 – no plants 2018 – removed flower tops 2019 – removed flower tops 2020 – removed flower tops 2021 – no plants
4	W. shoreline of main channel	Lat 44.559, Long -89.645	2 plts None None None None	None	No	2010 - removed plants 2011 - no plants 2012/13 - no plants 2014/15 - no plants 2016/21 – no plants

Site No	Description	Google Earth GPS Coordinates (degrees)	Plt Density	Beetle Activity	Chem Applied	Action Taken
5	Small island along W. shoreline & main channel	Lat 44.562, Long -89.650	30 plts 20 plts 13 plts 3 plts 1 plt None None 3 plts None 2 pts	Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Light	No No No No No No No	2010 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2011 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2012 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2014 – removed plant 2015 – no plants 2016 – no plants 2017 – removed plants 2018/20 – no plants 2021 – removed plants
6	Bedrock below spillway W. side	Lat 44.515, Long -89.588	30 plts 25 plts 40 plts 25 plts 23 plts 20 plts 23 plts 18 plts 24 plts 20 plts 23 plts 22 plts	Light Light Light Light Light Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy	No No No No No No No No No No No No	2010 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2011 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles, 2 pots planted 2012 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles, 3 pots planted 2014 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles, 6 pots planted 2015 – removed flower tops 2016 – removed flower tops 2017 – removed flower tops 2018 – removed flower tops 2019 – removed flower tops 2020 – removed flower tops 2021 – removed flower tops
7	Small island across from old STH 10 recreation site (CTH HH)	Lat 44. 569, Long -89.657	4 plts 2 plts 1 plt None None None	Medium Medium Medium 	No No No 	2010 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2011 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2012 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 – no plants 2014/15 – no plants 2016/21 – no plants

8	E. shoreline, 0.5 miles downstream new STH 10 recreation site	Lat 44.594, Long -89.645	1 plt None None None None	None	No	2010 – removed plant 2011 – no plants 2012/13 – no plants 2014/15 – no plants 2016/21 – no plants
Site No	Description	Google Earth GPS Coordinates (degrees)	Plt Density	Beetle Activity	Chem Applied	Action Taken
9	Island East of Martin Island Drive (upstream end)	Lat 44. 556, Long -89.644	2 plts None None	None		2013 – removed plants 2014/15 – no plants 2016/21 – no plants
10	1 st Lake area West shoreline area	Lat 44. 573, Long -89.661	10 plts 2 plts 2 plts None 3 plts 5 plts None	Light Medium Medium Light Medium	No No No No No	2012 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 – removed plants 2014 – removed plants 2015 – no plants 2016 – removed plants 2017 – removed plants 2018/21 – no plants
11	2 nd Lake east finger on side channel	Lat 44.581, Long -89.660	40 plts 6 plts 12 plts 8 plts 10 plts 7 plts 4 plts None 2 plats	Light Light Light Heavy Heavy Heavy Heavy Medium	No No No No No No	2012 - removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2013 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2014 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2015 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2016 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2017 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2018 – removed flower tops 2019-20 – no plants 2021 – removed plants
12	West shore slough above 2 nd Lake	Lat 44.591, Long-89.659	3 plts 2 plts 1plt None	Heavy Heavy Heavy	No No No	2013 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2014 – removed flower tops, rest for beetles 2015 – removed plant 2016/19 – no plants

Notes: No chemical applications for 2010 - 2021. Beetle activity rating based on percentage of leaves with bee-bee holes from beetle feeding: light less than 15%, medium 15% to 30%, heavy greater than 30% .





