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 SECRETARY  
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 FEDERAL ENERGY  
 REGULATORY COMMISSION

October 30, 2007

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
 Mail Code: DTCA, HL 21.3  
 888 First Street, N.E.  
 Washington, D.C. 20426

FERC Project No. 1981-030

Dear Secretary Salas:

As per the Order Issuing New License for the Stiles Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 1981) dated February 26, 2003, Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC) is enclosing documentation of the recently completed Exotic Species Control Plan for 2007, required in Article 407 of the License.

The Exotic Species Control Plan specifically addresses purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*.) A copy of the plan is attached as Exhibit I.

OEC conducted the survey similar to previous surveys, making sure to carefully observe areas identified earlier as sites containing purple loosestrife. Data sheets for the survey were provided by the Wisconsin Wetlands Association (WWA). Results of the survey are sent to the Machickanee Advancement Association, Wisconsin DNR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and FERC.

The purpose of the survey is to identify and quantify possible colonies of purple loosestrife. If colonies of 1-5 plants are found on OEC owned land, removal or treatment is required. If colonies are found on private land, OEC is responsible for contacting the property owners and encouraging them to remove and destroy the plants.

On August 11, 2007 Jan Stranz of OEC and AJ Stranz (volunteer) conducted a survey by water of the shoreline of the Machickanee Flowage, including shoreline owned by OEC. They located a few small colonies of the plant and were able, for the most part, to identify the property owners on whose land the purple loosestrife was found. The surveyors noted locations on a map and indicated the GPS coordinates for the plants they discovered. Their survey sheet is included as Exhibit II (a) and their map is Exhibit II (b).

**FERC Project No. 1981  
Article 407 – Exotic Species Plan**

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**If you have questions about this report, please contact Kent Lyng, OEC's Vice President of Engineering, at (920) 848-2816.**

**Sincerely,**



**Byron C. Nolde  
Chief Executive Officer**

**Attachments**

**Eight (8) Copies to FERC**

**CC: Coordinator-FERC Projects, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Judie Gowaski, President-Machickanee Advancement Association**

## Exotic Species Control Plan

### General Guidelines

Oconto Electric Cooperative (OEC), along with appropriate local groups and resource agencies, will continually work to control/eliminate exotic species, such as purple loosestrife, Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels, in the project area. The project area is defined as those lands owned by OEC and the shoreline observable from the flowage. Although OEC will be responsible for coordinating efforts to control and eliminate exotics occurring on its own property, it is limited to supplying information to neighboring property owners.

When exotics are classified and identified by local or state authorities, OEC will proceed with a plan to monitor the identified species. The plan elements include: 1) method of monitoring, 2) frequency of monitoring, 3) documentation of transmission of monitoring data to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Machickanee Flowage Advancement Association (MFAA), 4) procedures for obtaining technical assistance and input from the WDNR, or other appropriate agencies, and 5) specific information on how OEC will cooperate with the agencies to control/eliminate the exotic species.

Along with the plan, OEC will include documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been provided to the agencies, and descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the plan. OEC will allow thirty (30) days for the agencies to comment and make recommendations before filing the plan with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). If OEC does not adopt a recommendation, the filing will include OEC's reasons based on project-specific information.

Oconto Electric Cooperative will post signs at recreation facilities on its property describing identified exotic species and informing the public on the control of the species. OEC will distribute fact sheets provided by the WDNR, or other appropriate agencies, at the project.

### Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) Plan

OEC shall, in consultation with the MFAA, the WDNR, and the USFWS, monitor purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) in specified project areas. The project lands, reservoir area, and ¼ mile downstream from the project will be surveyed by OEC during peak flowering stage, being mid July/mid August of each year. OEC will estimate and map the amount of infestation of purple loosestrife.

If small colonies of purple loosestrife consisting of 1-5 plants are found on OEC-owned land, OEC will remove it and all of its roots, or cut and then spray it with an appropriate aquatic herbicide. Larger colonies will be removed after consultation with the resource agencies. If purple loosestrife is found on lands NOT owned by OEC, then OEC, in conjunction with the MFAA, will contact the property owner and encourage the owner to remove the plants.

Oconto Electric Cooperative will post signs at recreation facilities on its property describing purple loosestrife and informing the public on the control of this plant. OEC will distribute fact sheets provided by the WDNR, or other appropriate agencies, at the project.

After survey results are compiled and any remedial actions are taken, a report detailing such results and actions will be submitted by OEC to the MFAA, WDNR, and USFWS, with a copy to FERC by October 31 of each year.

### Eurasian Milfoil

There is no plan to monitor or map Eurasian milfoil in the Machickanee Flowage because of its prolific presence throughout the flowage. The MFAA, in cooperation with the WDNR and other groups, has been attempting for years to eradicate this exotic species. OEC agrees that Eurasian milfoil is undesirable. If any agency or group devises a cost-effective plan to control/eradicate this species, OEC will cooperate with that plan.

Purple Loosestrife Survey Data Sheet

Time spent surveying: 2.5 hrs. Page 1 of 1

Survey date: 8/11/07	County: Oconto	Name(s) of waterbody(ies): Machickane Flowage
Volunteer: Jan Stranz	Address: Oconto Electric Cooperative PO Box 168 - Oconto Falls WI 54154	Phone/e-mail: (920) 846-2810 jstranz@ocontoelectric.com
Volunteer: Al Stranz	Address: 7911 Burdosh Rd. Abrams WI 54101	Phone/e-mail: (920) 826-5360
Volunteer:	Address:	Phone/e-mail:

Site #	Number of plants			Acreage (1 acre = 1 football field)		Density of PL plants		Galerucella beetles		NOTES
	1-10	11-49	50+	Less than 1 acre	More than 1 acre	Sparsely	Very dense	Leaf damage	Gal. beetles	
17		X		X			X	X		W side of river, N of Hwy 66 bridge. Saw several eggs, no beetles.
1	X			X		X				44.51.44N / 88.03.27W near buoys @ power house
2	X			X		X				" .40N / " .36W Zinder property
3		X		X		X				" .33N / " .43W → " .31N / " .45W - Zinder property
4		X		X		X				" .31N / " .47W (low grassy yard)
5	X			X		X				" .30N / " .62W E side + around point
6		X		X		X				" .24N / " .66W W side of point - continues for ~ 200 ft.
7	X			X		X				.18N / " .76W
8		X		X		X				44.50.88N / 88.04.87W scattered in bay in cattails
9	X			X		X				44.51.28N / 88.05.11W far end of big lily pond; So. shore, W end pond
10	X			X		X				Viewed from 44.51.00N / 88.04.29W 50 yds E of bird trees
11	X			X		X				44.51.72N / 88.02.42W Younger's dock - N end of dike - Pull these plants

SAMPLE SOUTH SHORE  
↓  
W along shore line  
in cattails  
~ 12 clumps  
~ 6 clumps  
North Shore  
↓

we pulled these plants  
more Zinder property  
~ 200 ft.  
shore, W end pond  
Pull these plants

Mail this data sheet and your map to  
WWA, Purple Loosestrife Survey Data, 222 South Hamilton Street, Suite 1, Madison, Wisconsin 53703

# LARGE-FORMAT IMAGES

One or more large-format images (over 8½" X 11") go here. These images are available in E-Library at:

For Large-Format(s):  
Accession No.: 20071115-0049

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File Date: 11/8/07 Docket No.: P/981-030

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Set No.: 1 of 1

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