

Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grants Education, Prevention and Planning Ranking Questions	Ranking Points	Big Sand Lake	Notes
<b>A. The degree to which the project includes a prevention and control strategy. (8 points possible)</b>			
<p>1) The project includes a well described, community-focused, educational outreach effort on aquatic invasive species and prevention methods that implements a statewide education strategy or priority. This does not include routine passive outreach activities such as newsletters and press releases, websites or CBCW or CLMN training &amp; monitoring activities. 1- 2 points (One point per activity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media Campaign using a "Protect WI Waters/It's the Law" message</li> <li>• Landing Blitz -July 4th weekend</li> <li>• Installing new State AIS signs (rev. 2010) at boat landings</li> <li>• Establishing enforcement partnerships with local law enforcement</li> </ul>	1 point	1	Installed new signage during last AIS-EPC Project
<p>Activity 1 Activity 2</p>	1 point	0	
<p>2) The project will train volunteers to identify AIS and conduct water body surveillance monitoring for early detection using accepted WDNR or citizen-based monitoring (CLMN/Project RED, etc) protocols where data is being entered into SWIMS.</p>	1 point	1	Has been trained, will be re-trained, and will conduct AIS surveys in anticipation of 2015 AIS-EPC grant.
<p>3) The project will deliver a professional level monitoring report and map about the presence or absence of aquatic invasive and native species. [e.g. a point/intercept aquatic plant survey(s) or other DNR approved protocols appropriate for the target species. Not protocols in #2]</p>	1 point	1	Native and Invasive plant surveys conducted as part of this grant will be reported upon.
<p>4) The project includes (or the sponsor is already conducting) a Clean Boats, Clean Waters watercraft inspection program per the requirements of s. NR 198.22 (1)(d) or an approved Alternative Equivalent (see guidance)</p> <p>a) 1 point - if project waters are AIS free b) 2 points - if project waters have AIS c) 3 points - if the project is county or town wide involving multiple waters</p>	1 - 3 points	2	Have obtained WDNR CBCW Grant for 2014 including 200 hours of paid monitoring.
<p>5) The project will conduct other complimentary source containment activities that go above and beyond minimum level of inspection and signage e.g. boat washing or cleaning stations, augmented enforcement.</p>	1 point	0	
<b>B. The degree to which the project will prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. (7 points possible – note 1a – 1d are not cumulative).</b>			
<p>1a) The majority (50%) of project activity will take place on a Statewide AIS Source Water listed on the following table.</p>	5 points	0	
<b>OR</b>			
<p>1b) The majority (50%) of the project will take place on a major AIS source water with high public use (lakes greater than 500 acres and all boat-able rivers that meet or exceed the minimum boating access criteria in NR 1.91(4) or wetlands greater than 500 acres in public ownership) OR; the project includes a Statewide AIS Source Water where less than 50% of the activities are directed.</p>	4 points	4	Big Sand is 1,400 acres with multiple fishing tournaments, multiple resorts, and large landing.
<b>OR</b>			
<p>1c) The majority (50%) of the project activity takes place on a significant AIS source water with high public use (lakes between 500 and 100 acres and all rivers that meet or exceed the minimum boating access criteria in NR 1.91(4); wade-able streams with public access or wetlands between 500 and 100 acres in public ownership).</p>	3 points	got 1b	
<b>OR</b>			
<p>1d) The majority (50%) of the project activity will take place on a minor AIS source water (lakes less than 100 acres that meet or exceed the minimum boating access criteria in NR 1.91(4); any river or stream with public access or; wetlands less than 100 acres in public ownership) OR any water determined to be a High Vulnerability Water as determined by Smart Prevention Analysis (for spiny water flea and zebra mussels only);</p>	2 points	got 1b	
<p>2) The project works to contain or plan the control of a NR40 prohibited species e.g Hydrilla, yellow floating heart, spiny water flea, red swamp crayfish, etc).</p>	2 points	0	
<b>C. The degree to which the project protects or improves the aquatic ecosystem's diversity, ecological stability or recreational uses. (3 points possible)</b>			
<p>1a) Project will produce a management plan(s) that meets the specifications of s. NR 198.43(1) or a strategic plan if not waterbody-specific.</p>	2 points	2	Will produce management plan
<b>OR</b>			
<p>1b) Project implements a Department-approved AIS plan</p>	1 point	0	
<p>2) Project area has a high degree of native biodiversity or is critical habitat, as expressed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an above eco-region average aquatic or wetland plant FQI</li> <li>• the presence of a listed aquatic species (NHL endangered, threatened or watch)</li> <li>• is an ERW or ORW water</li> <li>• has a Sensitive Area or Critical Habitat designation</li> <li>• is within or adjacent to a State Natural Area, State Park, other publicly owned unique natural area or such an area owned/managed by a nonprofit conservation organization (e.g., Nature Conservancy).</li> </ul>	1 point	1	Big Sand has above eco-region average FQI (37.9 2011 PI)

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<b>D. The stage of the AIS population in the water body.</b> (2 points possible.)			
1) Project addresses a pioneer population (as defined by s.198.12 (8)), or has previously been an early response project.	2 points	0	
<b>E. The degree to which the project will likely to result in successful long-term prevention or control.</b> (2 points possible)			
1) Sponsor has demonstrated by previous actions that they are capable of managing projects successfully. Either they have a previous project history e.g. reports completed, on budget, on schedule, objectives achieved or they have been conducting the project activities without state financial assistance.	1 point	1	Several AIS grants obtained and completed, 2007 management planning project completed.
2) The sponsor has had a pre-application grant scoping consultation with the Department and the application is consistent with the results of those discussions.	1 point	1	Lake group has had many correspondence with WDNR, also this plan laid out in 2012 and
<b>F. The availability of public access to, and public use of, the waterbody.</b> [If regional scale, consider relative degree for significant water bodies] (2 points possible)			
1) Any lake of 100 surface acres or greater and any boat-able river that has more than the minimum public boating access as defined in s. NR 1.91(4) or any wetland greater than 50 acres in public ownership.	1 point	1	Yes
2) The water provides significant alternative public access and use opportunities that include two of the following at separate locations: public swimming beach; park or other public land with accessible frontage, public fishing pier or wildlife observation area; two or more private resorts, youth camps or sportsmen clubs; or where more than 50% of the lake or river shore in the project area is in public ownership.	1 point	1	Multiple Resorts and other public access opportunities, including ADA fishing pier.
<b>G. The degree to which the proposed project includes or is complemented by other management efforts including watershed pollution prevention and control, native vegetation protection and restoration and other actions that help control aquatic invasive species or resist future colonization.</b> (3 points possible)			
1) Project is supported by existing, or will produce, create or improve local ordinances, lake rules or plans that protect habitat and aquatic resources and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (slow no wake ordinances, stormwater ordinances, runoff and nonpoint source pollution management plans).	1 point	1	Project creates an implementation plan that will provide for the protection of habitat and aquatic resources and minimize spread of AIS.
2) Applicant demonstrates that they have implemented (within the last 5 years) - or the project includes developing plans for - a shoreland restoration, habitat protection, sediment and nutrient control or other substantial lake stewardship activity that protects the lake ecosystem.	1 point	0	We know of no project that would fit this question.
3) The sponsor is a Green Tier Community Charter member. (City of Middleton, Bayfield, Fitchburg, Appleton, Weston, Monona, Eau Claire, La Crosse & the Village of Bayside)	1 point	0	
<b>H. Community support and commitment, including past efforts to control aquatic invasive species.</b> (5 points possible)			
1) This is demonstrated by requesting less than the maximum state share cost rate (cash costs) for the total project costs. No more than 25% of the project match can be in-kind or donated labor. The sponsor is requesting: 65% State Share (1 point <\$50K, 2 points >\$50K)	1 or 2 points	0	
<b>OR</b> 50% State Share (2 points <\$50K, 3 points >\$50K)	2 or 3 points	0	
2) Sponsor has previously implemented projects or control actions to reduce or eliminate AIS or that help support the success of the current proposal including enacting ordinances and has successfully completed all previously funded projects.	1 point	1	Multiple treatments completed.
3) Project includes partnerships between the applicant and a local unit of government, school, lake or community organization or business (other than a contractor) that is committed in writing to providing important project resources (time or \$) and will not receive grant funding from the project.	1 point	0	
<b>I. Whether the sponsor has previously received a grant for a similar project for the same water body.</b> (1 point possible)			
1) The sponsor has not received an AIS grant for essentially the same EPP project(s) (same activities, same species) in the last five years. This does not include Early Detection & Response.	1 point	1	First EPP Grant for completion of plan for Big Sand.
<b>J. The degree to which the project will advance the knowledge and understanding of the prevention and control of aquatic invasive species.</b> (1 point possible)			
1) Project has an evaluation component that will be conducted by an objective outside entity to assess project outcomes or is a participant in a Department-sponsored research and demonstration project on the AIS research priority list.	1 point	0	
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Overview		
	Category	Points
The degree to which the project includes a prevention and control strategy.	A	5 / 8
The degree to which the project will prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.	B	4 / 7
The degree to which the project protects or improves the aquatic ecosystem's diversity, ecological stability or recreational uses.	C	3 / 3
The stage of the AIS population in the water body.	D	0 / 2
The degree to which the project will likely to result in successful long-term prevention or control.	E	2 / 2
The availability of public access to, and public use of, the waterbody.	F	2 / 2
The degree to which the proposed project includes or is complemented by other management efforts including watershed pollution prevention and control, native vegetation protection and restoration and other actions that help control aquatic invasive species or resist future colonization.	G	1 / 3
Community support and commitment, including past efforts to control aquatic invasive species.	H	1 / 5
Whether the sponsor has previously received a grant for a similar project for the same water body.	I	1 / 1
The degree to which the project will advance the knowledge and understanding of the prevention and control of aquatic invasive species.	J	0 / 1

January 31, 2014

Kevin Gauthier  
DNR Northern Region  
8770 Hwy J  
Woodruff, WI 54568

Dear Mr. Gauthier,

This letter is forwarded by the Town of Phelps Lakes Committee in support of the lake planning grant proposal being submitted by the Big Sand Lake POA. This lake management planning grant will assist with the development of a comprehensive management plan for Big Sand Lake. The scope of this project includes an inventory of the lake's plants, watershed, shoreline condition and water quality. It will also describe the integration of available fisheries information, past aquatic plant and water quality assessments and an intensive stakeholder participation component. The study components will provide the baseline data required to assess the lake ecosystem's condition, while the stakeholder participation portion will shed light on the expectations and needs of the lake users.

The Town of Phelps Lakes Committee supports all efforts of lake property owners and lake associations in our town to maintain and improve their lake. This lake management planning project will certainly work toward that goal as well as engaging lake property owners.

We fully support and endorse this grant application and will do whatever we can to assist the Big Sand Lake POA in its efforts to protect their lake.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant proposal.

Regards,

*Dave Roberts*

Dave Roberts, Chairman  
Town of Phelps Lakes Committee



## Vilas County Land & Water Conservation

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30 January 2014

Mr. Kevin J. Gauthier, Sr.,  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
8770 Hwy J  
Woodruff, WI 54568

Dear Mr. Gauthier,

I am writing in support of the Lake Management Planning Grant Proposal submitted by the Big Sand Lake Property Owners Association, Inc (BSLPOA). The *Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department* supports this proposal and feels strongly that it is an important component of overall efforts to protect Vilas County area lakes.

The BSLPOA is collaborating with Onterra, LLC to address a rebounding population of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) present in Big Sand Lake. BSLPOA has been addressing the EWM since 2008, partially with DNR grant funds, partially with their own funds. In the proposed project, lake, shoreline and watershed data will be collected and stakeholder input will be sought. All these products will be used to develop a lake management plan and create opportunities to educate lake shore owners and lake users about lake ecology and management.

Our department finds that comprehensive planning projects like the one proposed both: a) develop baseline data necessary for the development of sustainable management planning and b) create an educated citizenry that is willing and able to participate in that management. Both components are invaluable in the protection and wise use of the land and water resources of Vilas County.

We also support this project because it will satisfy many goals set forth in the 2010-2014 Vilas County Land and Water Resource Management Plan. Specific goals addressed through the proposed project are listed here: *Goal 2 Protect aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems from non-native invasive species* ; *Goal 3 Monitor and protect surface waters from impacts of land disturbance, non-point source pollution, and degradation*; *Goal 6 Educate the public about natural resources and promote sound stewardship practices.*

The Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department supports this proposed project and as always, we will provide assistance as needed throughout the life of the project. If you have any questions about our supporting role in the project, please do not hesitate to contact me at (715) 479-3747 or [mashee@co.vilas.wi.us](mailto:mashee@co.vilas.wi.us).

Thank you for considering this excellent project for grant funding.  
Sincerely,

*Quita Sheehan*

Mariquita Sheehan  
Vilas County Conservation Specialist

CC: Dan Cibulka, Onterra LLC