

**CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY**

General Offices  
P.O. Box 8050, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-8050  
A subsidiary of Verso Corporation

November 18, 2018

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

(VIA ELECTRONIC FILING)

***Biron Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2192 – Article 405, Exotic Species Annual Monitoring Report – 2018***

Dear Secretary:

In accordance with the order approving the Exotic Species Control Plan, Consolidated Water Power Company (CWPCo) is filing the annual monitoring report for 2018.

CWPCo conducted monitoring during the summer of 2018 by vehicle and boat from July 16th through August 2nd. No observances of curly-leaf pondweed were noted during the annual period. CWPCo operating and maintenance personnel informally monitor for the presence of zebra mussels during the course of their normal work duties. No zebra mussel observations were reported within the annual period during duties involving hydro turbine repairs, trashrack intake cleaning, gate operations and riprap improvements. This included reskinning the B3 and B4 spillway gates. Additionally there was no observances along the dry, exposed shoreline at the dam or our recreation sites.

Eurasian water milfoil continued to be observed in 2018 during boat monitoring within Love Creek at dispersed levels. Current milfoil levels do not demonstrate any significant negative effects towards fish or wildlife populations with the Project.

**SUMMARY – Purple Loosestrife**

Overall, the total number of observed purple loosestrife plants observed was similar to the 2016-17 observations, with all plants observed having beetle activity. Overall, the purple loosestrife history has trended lower from 2010 - 2013 time period, with 4 observed sites in 2012 and three in 2013. This trend continued with the 2014/15 and 2016/17 biennial periods. The decreasing site trend and greater observed beetle activity demonstrates there aren't significant negative purple loosestrife effects on the Project fish or wildlife populations.

Information about invasive species (PUBL-WM-250-95) is provided along with the distribution of our recreational brochures which are free to the public.

Sincerely,

CONSOLIDATED WATER POWER COMPANY

*Thomas J. Witt*

Thomas J. Witt  
Resources Manager

Attachments: none

File: (Biron, LG-90-30, Article 405)

cc: Ms. Cheryl Laatsch, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (electronic copy)  
Mr. Nick Utrup, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, St. Paul, MN. (electronic copy)