



National Audubon Society, Inc, #13 – 1624102
225 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, New York 10014

August 8, 2021

David Grandmaison
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
715-817-8510

Re: Quarterly Report and Invoice – Allouez Bay Marsh Bird Conservation Design

Dear Mr. Grandmaison:

From March – June of 2021 Audubon worked to establish and host regular monthly meetings of the Allouez Bay Marsh Bird Restoration Project Site Team. Initial meetings primarily focused on available data and information and gaps in data. Audubon finalized a sub-award agreement with NRRI in June of 2021 to lead monitoring efforts and NRRI was able to survey both Allouez Bay and six additional locations along the St. Louis River during the summer breeding season of 2021. Audio Recording Units (ARUs) were also established by NRRI at Allouez Bay for the first time this summer. NRRI will need feedback from WDNR, Audubon and partners to firmly establish the most effective monitoring locations for both breeding and migratory seasons. The Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), which is 75% complete, will guide these decisions along with analysis to be performed.

In April, Audubon finalized and distributed the Allouez Bay interspersed report and associated GIS files, which will serve as critical data to guide marsh bird scope and design. Audubon and other project partners have participated in the Allouez Bay Landscape Conservation Design, and early conceptual design and draft objectives appear to overlap well with marsh bird goals of this project. There are no major data or knowledge gaps that would hinder our project design. In May, Duluth Audubon Society hosted a bird walk with the Friends of the Lake Superior Reserve attended by over 20 people and community interest in this project is strong.

Outside of this invoiced period, in July, Audubon engaged with the Northern Institute for Applied Climate Science, who are interested in supporting climate adaptation planning for this project. Climate adaptation workshops with the project site team will be held in September of 2021. In July, Audubon hired a Wisconsin Conservation Manager, Tom Prestby who will begin work for Audubon, and on this project in August. In early August, Audubon and Wisconsin DNR distributed project information letters to the City of Superior, Douglas County and regional Tribes.

Due to project initiation delays, we are behind schedule on firmly establishing the QAPP and the monitoring program, however, overall, the project is on schedule to deliver its major output for the year, a full scope.

From March – June, we have spent and are invoicing for a total of **\$3,336.76**

Thank you for your partnership.

Nat Miller

Director of Conservation
Great Lakes and Upper Mississippi Flyway
National Audubon Society