

# Application Instructions and Form Prairie du Sac Aquatic Resources Enhancement Fund

## **OVERVIEW**

The Aquatic Resources Enhancement Fund (fund) is a monetary fund established by Alliant Energy's Wisconsin utility in accordance with the November 7, 2003, Order Modifying and Approving Aquatic Resources Enhancement Plan and Article 408 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license. This Order requires Alliant Energy to provide \$28,500 to a designated account by January 30 of each year. This fund is managed by the Natural Resources Foundation on behalf of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Representatives from the River Alliance of Wisconsin, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (i.e. Implementation Team or IT) are identified in the above mentioned Order as the organizations responsible for jointly selecting projects that receive funding. The fund was established to provide funding for enhancement of aquatic resources in the Lake Wisconsin basin and the project tail race.

As stated in the Order, the fund was established "for the purpose of fish and aquatic resource enhancement projects specific to the Lake Wisconsin basin and the project tailrace. Projects may include aquatic studies and research, water quality enhancements beyond standards, habitat mitigation and enhancement, and other measures (such as fish passage)."

**WHO CAN APPLY:** Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, other local governmental units as defined in s.66.0131(1)(a), Wis. Stats., qualified river management organizations, educational institutions, any state or federal agency, and qualified non-profit conservation organizations are eligible to apply.

**PROJECT AREA:** The upper reach of the basin is defined as ending at the tailrace of Castle Rock hydroelectric dam. The lower reach of the basin is defined as ending at the tailrace of the Prairie du Sac hydroelectric dam. The defined area includes associated tributaries entering the river between upper and lower reach of the defined project area. The tailrace area is understood to extend to Hwy 12.

**FUNDS AVAILABLE:** The amount of funds dispersed in any given year is subject to funding availability. In general, funding requests should not exceed \$50,000 annually.

**PROJECT TIMELINES:** Projects shall be limited to 2 calendar years unless other timelines are approved by the Implementation Team (IT).

- Year One = April 1 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>
- Year Two = Jan 1 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>
- Year Three = requires IT approval

## **SCHEDULE FOR THE APPLICATION AND FUNDING PROCESS:**

- November 1: Announcements will be made regarding fund availability, and the

application process starts. This announcement will be published on the Alliant Energy website, social media, and the local newspaper outlets. (This date may change due to changes or updates to the application process.)

- January 31: Application deadline for projects or studies proposed to be funded during the following calendar year.
- By February 28: A meeting will be held by the IT to review the applications. The IT will review proposals, request additional information from the applicant(s), and make funding decisions.
- By March 31: The awards will be announced by a letter that will be sent to all applicants regarding the IT's funding decisions and rationale.

**DECISION CRITERIA:** The IT shall be responsible for determining the projects eligibility as well as whether funding shall be awarded. The criteria used by the IT when evaluating the project proposals include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Project location: Tiers represent priority of the IT and will be ranked accordingly. Projects in Tier 1 will be reviewed first, then Tier 2, and then Tier 3.
  - Tier 1 Area: Lake Wisconsin, the mainstem of the Wisconsin River upstream of the PDS dam to the Hwy 33 bridge crossing in Portage, and downstream of the dam to the Hwy 12 bridge crossing.
  - Tier 2 Area: Mainstem of the Wisconsin River, upriver of Hwy 33 bridge at Portage, to the tailrace of the Castlerock dam, and downstream of the dam to the Hwy 12 bridge crossing.
  - Tier 3 Area: Tributaries to the Wisconsin River, between the tailrace of Castlerock dam and Hwy 12, and a project nexus associated with the main stem of the Wisconsin River or Lake Wisconsin.
2. Short- and long-term resource value to the river basin. This may include fisheries, aquatic habitat, water quality, studies and research, mitigation and enhancement, etc.
3. Ability for the project applicant to demonstrate successful completion of project goals and deliverables.
4. While not required, applicants are encouraged to make a concerted effort to secure additional financial contributions or in-kind services for their project from outside sources. Please provide documentation in the form of a letter from the outside source describing the type of contribution.
5. While not required, applicants are encouraged to provide letters of support for their project.
6. Project funding is contingent upon approval by consensus from the IT.

**DELIVERABLES:** The applicant shall submit a progress report by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The report shall include the following:

- a full disclosure of expenditures,
- summary of results,
- raw data,
- description of how the project is meeting or has met the performance measures, goals, and objectives outlined in the project proposal
- anything else that the IT determines appropriate.

A final report shall be submitted by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the final year. The applicant may be asked to present the information to the IT. All information gathered and conclusions reached by the funded project may become public information. At a minimum, Alliant Energy, US Fish and Wildlife Service, River Alliance of Wisconsin, and the Department of Natural Resources will be copied on all publications and reports.

**INVOICING AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR PAYMENTS:** All invoice submittals shall include receipts for purchases, description of the costs, and an explanation of why the costs were incurred, including a balance sheet that documents the incurred and expected costs for the remainder of the project. - Each approved project will have a single contact person (the project manager) and a single fiscal agent (entity receiving wire transfer of funds). Final payment of funded projects will not be made until the final report is received.

**APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Application page (the official PDS application form)
2. Separate written description must include the following in outline form:
  - a. Applicant information
  - b. Names and contact information of people involved with the development of your project (property owners, resource agencies, educational institutions, non-profits/organizations, etc.)
  - c. Documentation of consultation with resource agency and feedback
  - d. Project location:
    - i. Map
    - ii. Drawings/figures
  - e. Detailed description of project
    - i. Methods
    - ii. Timeline and schedule
    - iii. Benefits of the project
      1. Short- and long-term aquatic and/or terrestrial resource value
      2. Compatibility with long-term resource management goals objectives to the river basin
  - f. Performance measurements for evaluating success
  - g. Detailed costs
    - i. Direct
    - ii. Indirect/overhead
    - iii. Matching/in-kind contributions



PRAIRIE DU SAC AQUATIC RESOURCES ENHANCEMENT FUND  
APPLICATION

PROJECT INFORMATION

|   |       |                              |         |
|---|-------|------------------------------|---------|
| Project Name  |       |                              |         |
| Project Sponsor   |       |                              |         |
| Waterbody Name  |       |                              |         |
| County Name   |       |                              |         |
| Township  | Range | E / W                        | Section |
| Project Manager / Name Affiliation  |       |                              |         |
| Contact Name  |       |                              |         |
| Contact Phone No.   |       | Contact Email Address        |         |
| Contact has made a concerted effort to secure matching funds for the project.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No   |       |                              |         |
| Projected Project Costs<br>\$   |       | Applicants Match Funds<br>\$ |         |
| By signing below the applicant certifies that they have met the eligibility requirements to apply and meet one or more of the following criteria:<br>Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, other local governmental units as defined in s.66.0131(1)(a), Wis. Stats., qualified river management organizations, educational institutions, any state or federal agency, and qualified non-profit conservation organizations, are eligible to apply. |       |                              |         |
| Start Date  |       | End Date                     |         |
| Signature   |       | Date                         |         |

FOR IMPLEMENTATION TEAM USE ONLY

Check the statement that applies to the proposed project / study:

- The proposed project / study has been approved for full funding.
- The proposed project / study has been approved for partial funding.
- The proposed project / study has not been approved for funding.

Rationale for Decision

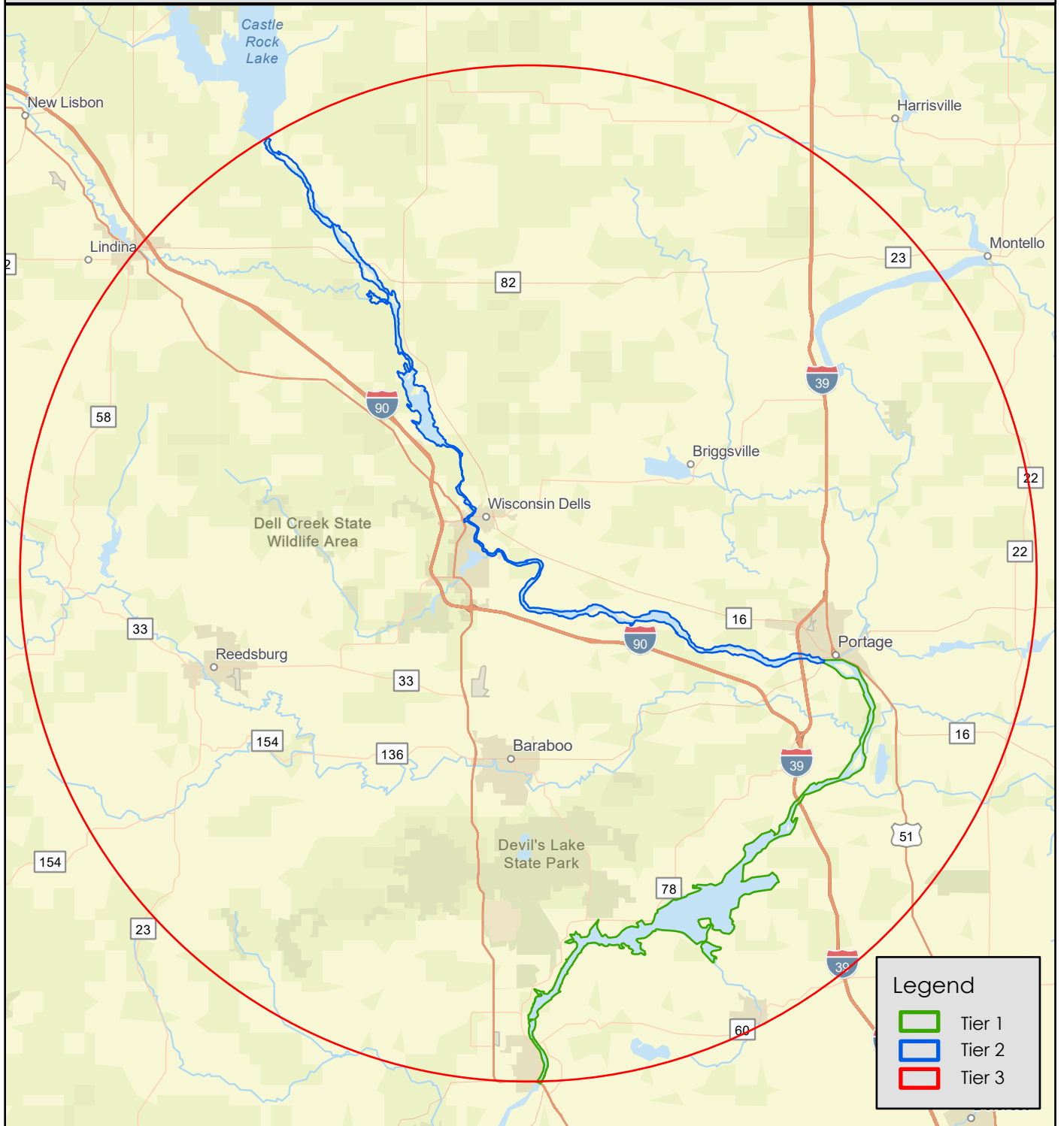
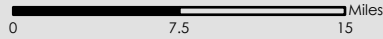
|                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Team Representative Signature | Date |
|                               |      |

Send completed application to:

Jake Hebl, Renewable Assets Manager  
Alliant Energy  
JakeHebl@alliantenergy.com  
Phone: (608) 643-7709

ECRM2139028 08/22

**Prairie du Sac Dam  
Aquatic Resources Enhancement Fund  
Tier Location Map**



**Legend**

- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3

**Map Disclaimer:**  
 This map is intended to provide a visual representation of property and geographic features. It is not a legal survey but a depiction of the property based on reasonably available information suitable for the intended purposes. This map shows the approximate relative location of property boundaries but was not prepared by a professional land surveyor. The use of this map is limited to applications consistent with the intent and accuracy of the map and source data. It may not be sufficient or appropriate for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. No guarantees or warranties are expressed. This map is not a survey of the actual boundary of any property this map depicts.

