



## MINONG FLOWAGE ASSOCIATION

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**June 11, 2024**

**Wisconsin DNR - Washburn County Service Center  
Water Resources Management Dept  
810 W. Maple Street  
Spooner, WI 54801**

**Attn: Austin Dehn, Patrick Anderson, Alexander Selle, Jill Sunderland**

**RE: Minong Flowage Association – Submission of new Aquatic Management Plan 2024**

The Minong Flowage Association (MFA) and their consultant - Lake Education and Planning Services (LEAPS) have recently completed a draft of the new 2024-2028 Aquatic Plant Management (APM) Plan for the Minong Flowage. This draft is an update of the existing APM Plan for the Minong Flowage. Within your records you will see an approved extension of the existing APM plan that expired at the end of 2023.

Throughout the process of updating the existing APM Plan, MFA Board Members, association membership, and the larger community constituency have been provided draft versions to review and have provided input. An initial draft of the Minong Flowage APM Plan was first presented to the MFA Board in January 2024. The following is a timeline of MFA Board and public input related to the development of the 2024-2028 APM Plan.

**1/12/2024** – First draft APM Plan sent to Steve Johnson, Dan Maxwell, and Harlan Johnson for initial input

**1/13/2024** – APM Plan discussed at MFA quarterly Board Meeting

**1/13-2024** – Comments from Steve, Dan, and Harlan, edits made

**2/14/2024** – Final draft of APM Plan and Appendices sent to the entire MFA Board

**2/20/2024** – Harlan Johnson (Pres.) reminded all MFA board members to review the APM Plan

**2/21-2024** – Discussion and comments from the MFA Board, no changes recommended

**3/10/2024** – MFA Board approved draft APM Plan

**3/18/2024** – Draft of APM Plan and appendices posted to MFA website

**4/11/2024**

- APM Plan and appendices posted on MFA website, notification of APM location posted on MFA Group-Facebook page
- Public Notice for opportunity to review the APM Plan (on the association's

- website) is published in the Spooner Advocate newspaper (April 11, 2024 edition)
- Email blast sent to a distribution list of constituents and affected stakeholders with notification of opportunity to review the APM
- The 21-day constituent review period begins
- 5/2/2024** – The 21-day constituent review period ends. No input/comments received by LEAPS or MFA Board members or in the MFA email box or written correspondence to the MFA PO Box
- 6/5/2024** – Draft APM Plan and Appendices reviewed and finalized by MFA President, LEAPS, and the MFA Lake Management Committee
- 6/11/2024** – APM Plan submitted, via email, to the WDNR, Spooner Service Center, Water Resource Management

**Please consider this letter to be the official request for WDNR review and approval of the 2024-2028 APM plan for the Minong Flowage.**

A completed draft of the APM Plan and the appendices are attached to this email and available electronically to download from [www.minongflowage.org](http://www.minongflowage.org). During review of the APM Plan, the WDNR is asked to approve the education, management, and planning actions included in the plan, and to determine grant eligibility for the following management goals, and objectives. For more detail about the Goals, Objectives, and Actions please review Appendix B. For a member-friendly APM plan only (sans background data), please refer to Appendix A.

**Goal 1: Maintain open and involved stakeholder participation in EWM management planning, implementation, and evaluation.**

**Objective 1:** The MFA will plan and participate in Stakeholder Discussions

**Goal 2: Protect and enhance the native aquatic plant community.**

**Objective 1:** Maintain or improve general measurements of aquatic plant community health (Simpson's Diversity Index, FQI, Mean Coefficient of Conservatism, and Mean native species at sites with vegetation).

**Objective 2:** Measure the effectiveness and impacts of large-scale EWM management actions on aquatic plants.

**Objective 3:** Measure the five-year impact of EWM management actions completed on the Minong Flowage.

**Goal 3: Minimize the negative impact of EWM on the native aquatic plant community, lake use and access, and the investment of property owners.**

**Objective 1:** Support an integrated, scenario-based approach to managing EWM to keep it from replacing native vegetation and/or blocking navigation.

**Goal 4: Reduce the threat of new aquatic invasive species being introduced and going undetected in the Minong Flowage and any AIS being carried to other lakes.**

**Objective 1:** Continue with the active Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) watercraft inspection program with annual review and renewal/improvements.

**Objective 2:** Maintain current and complete AIS signage at public access sites on the Minong Flowage, with annual inspection.

**Objective 3:** Reduce the likelihood that new AIS goes undetected in the Minong Flowage and track existing AIS for additional spread.

**Goal 5: Improve the level of knowledge property owners and lake users have related to aquatic invasive species and their impact on the lake.**

**Objective 1:** Plan, coordinate, and implement an annual AIS education event(s) alone or in cooperation with other Stakeholders.

**Objective 2:** Distribute information and education materials to property owners and lake users.

**Objective 3:** Provide information annually about the locations of dense growth EWM that may impair navigation.

**Objective 4:** Solicit public input and review of annual AIS management planning efforts.

**Goal 6: Improve the level of knowledge property owners and lake users have related to how their Actions impact the aquatic plant community, lake community, water quality.**

**Objective 1:** Increase and improve the amount of lake shoreline with a natural buffer zone via education, promote shoreline restoration, and other best management practices.

**Objective 2:** Maintain and/or increase the amount of coarse woody debris present along the shoreline of the Minong Flowage. Continuation of “FishSticks” program to improve fish habitat.

**Objective 3:** Continue to collect regular, long-term water quality data in the Minong Flowage.

**Goal 7: Complete APM Plan implementation and maintenance for a period of five years following Adaptive management practices.**

**Objective 1:** Prepare summary reports for annual aquatic plant surveys and management actions.

**Objective 2:** Adapt the management goals, objectives, and actions documented in the 2024-2028 APM Plan as needed.

During the APM plan review, please reference the multiple supporting data and background documents attached to this email. If you have any concerns, please contact me and/or Dave Blumer from LEAPS at your convenience.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harlan Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Harlan Johnson, President**  
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