

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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Noxious Plant Requirements at Hydropower Projects in Michigan

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Objective

- Summarize the frequency and type of noxious plant requirements in Michigan.
- Summarize purple loosestrife and Eurasian watermilfoil monitoring and control efforts at MI hydropower projects.



Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge
in Central New York.



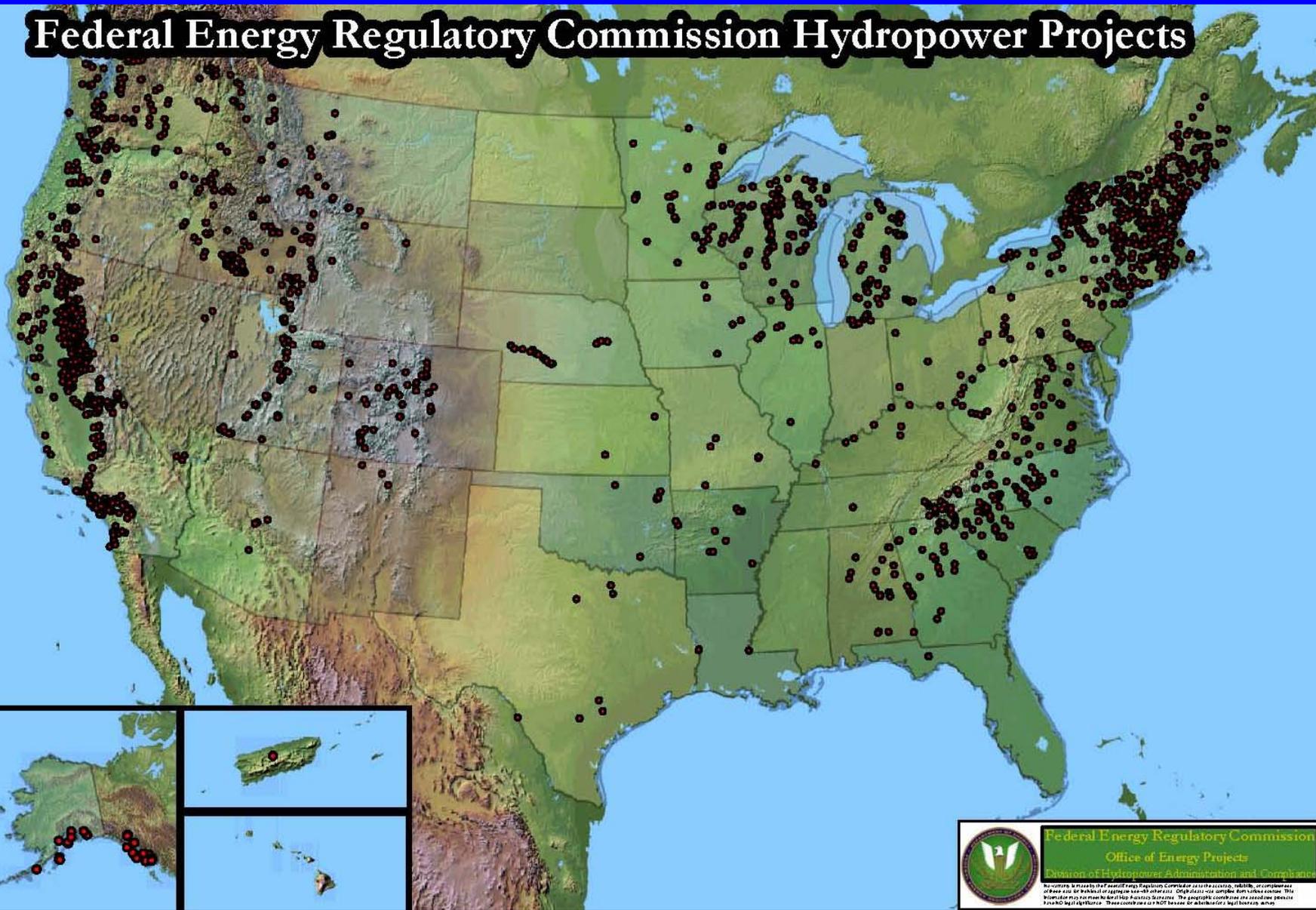
Ten years later



General Information

- FERC licenses about 1600 projects across the U.S. and Puerto Rico.
- Michigan has 81 licensed or exempted projects.
- Noxious plant requirements started to appear in FERC licenses around 1993.
- Currently, 45 of these projects have noxious plant monitoring requirements.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Hydropower Projects



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects
Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance

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General Information

- Out of the 45 projects with noxious plant requirements:
 - All monitor for purple loosestrife and/or Eurasian watermilfoil.
 - One project monitors for curly-leaf pondweed.



General Information

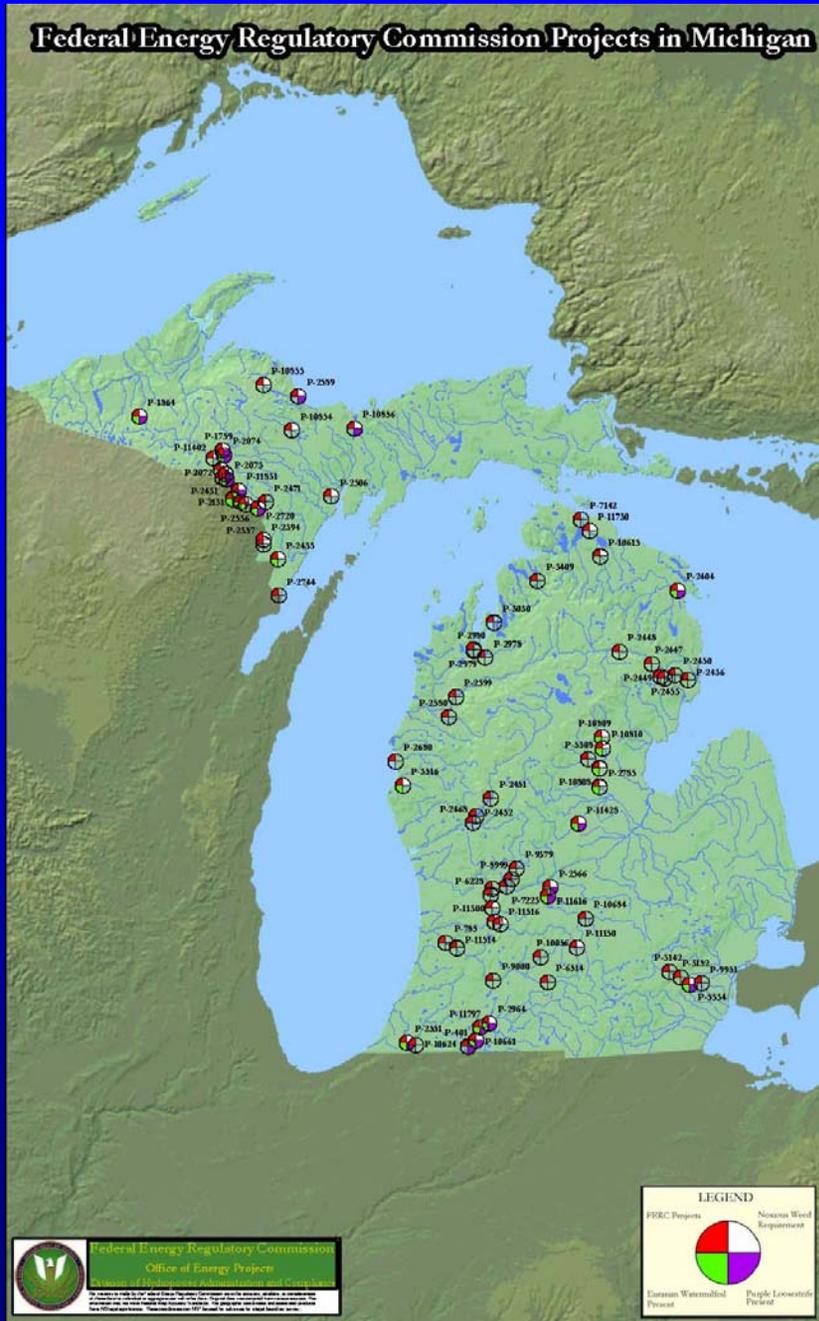
- 35 projects currently have monitoring plans approved by the Commission.
- 33 file (or will file) monitoring reports with the Commission.
- Almost all (43) also file with the DNR and/or USFWS.

Noxious Plants Present



- 23 projects are known to have purple loosestrife present.
- 27 projects are known to have Eurasian watermilfoil present.

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LEGEND

FERC Projects

Nonpoint Source Requirements

Excess Nutrient Potential

Lowest Feasible Prudent





Monitoring

- 49 % monitor annually/biennially
- 14 % monitor every 3 years if present
every 5 years if not present
- 14 % monitor every 3 or 5 years regardless
- 14 % TBD
- 7 % monitor p.l. annually, e.w.m. every 3
- 2% monitor as requested



Control Measures

- All of the approved plans include agency consultation as part of their control measures, usually with the DNR, and FWS.
- Many propose to use more than one method:
 - mechanical, herbicides, and/or biological



Control Measures

- 33 % propose/use mechanical removal.
- 20 % propose/use herbicide control.
- 4 % propose/use biological control.
- Others wait until plant is present to propose a control measure.

