Vegetation Management Plan Crawfish River Solar, LLC Project Jefferson County, WI



September 2020

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE

This Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) has been prepared for the Crawfish River Solar Project (Project) located in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. A total Project area of approximately 683 acres of land is being considered for development of a solar power generation facility.

The purpose of the VMP is to describe vegetation management practices during the construction and operational phases of the Project. Training will be provided to contractors and sub-contractors to ensure compliance with the conditions of the CA and this VMP.

This plan was prepared by Crawfish River Solar, LLC and their contractors.

The VMP includes three elements of implementation based on timeline milestones of the Project:

- 1. Prior to Construction
- 2. During Construction
- 3. Operations & Ongoing Maintenance

PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION

Existing Vegetation Conditions

Under existing conditions, much of the Crawfish River Site consists of active agriculture under row crop production. The dominant vegetation within the non-agricultural upland areas are comprised of grassland areas along the perimeter and between agricultural fields and isolated woodland areas. Upland woodlands located within the Project Area are comprised of relatively small isolated woodlots and perimeter areas within the agricultural landscape.

The dominant vegetation within the agricultural areas are under row crop production comprised of corn (*Zea mays*) and soybeans (*Glycine max*). Other agricultural areas were identified and are currently in mint (*Mentha sp.*) production. Common vegetation observed within or adjacent to the cultivated fields include common ruderal species such as ragweed (*Ambrosia spp.*), chufa (*Cyperus esculentus*), amaranth (*Amaranthus spp.*), common plantain (*Plantago major*), and Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*). Also, a few pasture areas were observed, dominated by common forage species such as alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) or orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*).

The dominant vegetation within the non-agricultural upland areas are comprised of grassland areas along the perimeter and between agricultural fields and isolated woodland areas. The upland grasslands are dominated by reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), quackgrass (*Elymus repens*), smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*), velvet leaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*), field penny cress (*Thlapsi arvense*), common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*), redroot amaranth (*Amaranthus retroflexus*), Canada thistle, stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and green foxtail (*Setaria viridis*).

Upland woodlands located within the Project Area are comprised of relatively small isolated woodlots and perimeter areas within the agricultural landscape. These woodlands are primarily dominated by box-elder (*Acer negundo*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*,), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), and black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) trees. The shrub understory vegetation within these areas includes Tartarian honeysuckle (*Lonicera tartarica*), nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*) common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), common blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*).

The non-forested wetlands in the Project Area are commonly dominated by reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), chufa, orange jewelweed, roughfruit amaranth (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), path rush (*Juncus tenuis*), giant ragweed, enchanter's nightshade (*Circaea canadensis*), red-root amaranth (*Amaranthus retroflexus*), spotted lady's thumb (*Persicaria maculosa*), cattail (*Typha latifolia*), barnyard grass (*Echinocloa crus*-galli), cinnamon willow herb (*Epilobium coloratum*), dark green bulrush (*Scirpus atrovirens*), Torrey's rush (*Juncus torreyi*), and sandbar willow (*Salix interior*). One wetland area also had a shrub component dominated by white mulberry (*Morus alba*) and gray dogwood (*Cornus obliqua*).

The forested wetlands that exist within the Project Area are either small isolated communities or are a minor component of the wet meadows described above. The forested wetlands are comprised of hardwood swamp communities dominated by Bebb's willow (*Salix bebbiana*), Eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), box elder, and American elm trees in the overstory. The dominant shrub/ground layer species include white mulberry, gray dogwood, red-osier dogwood (*Cornus alba*), common buckthorn, swamp dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*), American black currant (*Ribes americana*), fowl manna grass (*Glyceria striata*), reed canary grass, chufa, orange jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*), enchanter's nightshade (*Circaea canadensis*), and barnyard grass.

Wetlands have been avoided to the extent practicable, however due to size and configuration of the Project within the landscape, wetland impacts are not completely avoidable.

Protection of Sensitive Areas

The Project Area does not contain sensitive wetlands as defined by 2015 Wisconsin Act 387, including state or federally listed waterways, trout streams, fisheries, wilderness areas, recreational areas, sensitive resources of state or federal concern, or other areas of special natural resource interest as outlined in NR 103.04, Wisc. Adm, Code.

Initial Assessment

Prior to the commencement of construction, site vegetation will be evaluated to determine which areas will be mowed, left undisturbed or will require pre-seeding. Areas with limited vegetation due to past farming operations or disruption of vegetation due to civil construction activities will be seeded and stabilized in a timely manner. Portions of the site not utilized for the Project facilities or not impacted during construction will remain vegetated.

Initial Stabilization

Prior to construction, areas that do not have more than 60% existing vegetative cover may be planted with both a cover crop and a long-term seed mix simultaneously. The purpose of this is to begin

vegetating the site early with a quick-growing cover crop to help manage and mitigate erosion during the early stages of construction when the soil will be disturbed.

Prior to construction, Crawfish River will obtain a Water Resource Application for Project Permits (WRAPP) from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § NR 216. The application will include a site-specific Erosion Control and Storm Water Management Plan (ECSWMP). The Plan will include technical drawings and descriptions of the best management practices that will be followed in compliance with WDNR technical standards.

DURING CONSTRUCTION

Site Clearing - General

Anti-tracking pads will be installed at the construction exits and temporary perimeter sediment controls and diversions will be installed concurrent with the progress of land clearing and grubbing activities.

Prior to any clearing, the limit of disturbance will be surveyed and marked in the field. This limit will include the limit of tree clearing, the limit of stump grubbing and in areas where no clearing is required the limit of soil disturbance.

In woodlands, heavy equipment operation will not be permitted to travel beyond the limits of grubbing. Tree harvesters may reach beyond the limit of grubbing to cut and retrieve trees or trees may be cut with chain saws and cabled to the limit of grubbing. After clearing limits are marked, individual trees within 10 feet of the clearing limit will be marked in the field for removal. Trees to be preserved within 10 feet of the clearing limit will receive tree protection. Tree clearing will be performed using whole tree harvesters, skidders, forwarders, and chain saws. Aerial lifts may be used to fell larger trees.

As shown in the Site Plans, where the solar array, roadway, or other grading is proposed stumps will be grubbed using tracked excavators. In areas cleared to minimize shading, stumps will be left in place to minimize ground disturbance. Some of the harvested trees may be sold in log lengths as saw timber. Trees with substantial defect, stumps, and tops will be processed in a grinder to provide wood mulch for perimeter sediment control. This will supplement the perimeter silt fence and compost filter socks. Farmland soils and areas identified for permanent stormwater best management practices (BMPs) will be protected from equipment traffic using construction fencing or other methods.

Site Grading and Access Road Development

Where grading occurs on site, topsoil that is shallower than the graded area will be stripped, stockpiled, and properly attended by BMPs until it is spread back over the cut / fill areas. Aggregate use is not anticipated for site access roads, however, if necessary, areas of shallow topsoil will be windrowed to the edges of the road area and distributed along the roadway post fill and aggregate installation. Geotextile matting will be installed prior to placement of aggregate to prevent mixing with native subsoil. Access roads developed as native compacted soil will be created with existing in situ soils unless such soils are not suitable. In such cases a similar approach to aggregate road construction will be employed. Cut / fill areas will be finish graded and seeded within 14 days of completion of the cut / fill / grading activities.

Erosion control devices will be maintained throughout grading and stabilization according to the ECSWMP developed for the Project as part of the WRAPP submitted to the WDNR in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § NR 216.

Care during construction will be taken to: a) avoid drain tile locations which are within the Project site, b) re-route drain tile away from locations which could be damaged during construction, or c) in the case of fields with pattern tile networks, work with applicable landowners to establish acceptable criteria for rerouting, replacing or abandoning in place drain tile that is within a PV array.

If drain tile is damaged, the damaged segments will be repaired in place or, if necessary, relocated as required by the condition and location of the damaged tile. In the event drain tile damage becomes apparent after commercial operation, the drain tile will be repaired in a manner that restores the operating condition of the tile at the point of repair. All repair, relocation, or rerouting referenced above will be consistent with these policies: a) materials will be of equal or better quality to those removed or damaged; b) work will be completed as soon as practicable, taking into consideration weather and soil conditions; c) work will be performed in accordance with industry-accepted, modern methods; and d) in the event water is flowing through a tile when damage occurs, temporary repairs will be promptly installed and maintained until such time that permanent repairs can be made.

Seeding during PV Plant Construction

Installation of pile foundations, racking, and solar modules will begin upon completion of the preparatory work steps noted above. Generally, pile, racking, and solar module installation only disturbs soil thru equipment staging and delivery traffic. Vegetation damaged from the installation process will be regraded if necessary and reseeded following completion of heavy construction activity in the respective areas.

Coinciding with the above referenced equipment installation, trenching for and installation of underground electrical cable will also take place. Along the trench path where topsoil is less than 48 inches deep, topsoil will be windrowed to the side of the trench and kept separate from the excavated subsoil to reduce mixing. Upon completion of cable installation, topsoil will be spread back over the electrical trench and seeded accordingly.

After site disturbance and construction is complete in an area, a temporary seed mixture consisting of a cover and companion crop will be planted to stabilize soils disturbed by Project construction until permanent vegetation establishes to meet three primary objectives:

- Compliance with the ECSWMP
- Achieve temporary stabilization to assist in erosion mitigation
- Enhancement of soil quality prior to installation of permanent seed mixes in the array areas

Upon completion of construction all disturbed areas will be seeded with a perennial seed mix that complies with Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter ATCP 20.01 regarding noxious weed seed content and labeling. Permanent seeding will comply with WDNR Conservation Practice Standard 1059 Seeding for Construction Site Erosion Control.

If steep slopes are present, wildlife compatible erosion control blanket will be installed. Mulch, if used, will comply with the WDNR Conservation Practice Standard 1085 Mulching for Construction Sites. Temporary

erosion and sediment control BMPs will remain in place until 70% of the permanent vegetation is established.

A detailed schedule for seeding within the Project area will be developed prior to construction commencement.

Seed Bed Preparation and Seeding Procedures

Prior to seeding areas may be tilled to reduce compaction and better prepare the seed bed. In lieu of deep tillage, specific species may be added to the seed mix that are capable of alleviating compaction. Deep tillage will not be conducted in non-farmed wetlands. An adequate seed bed will be prepared using disc, field cultivator, or chisel plow (or equivalent) seedbed. Seedbed preparation will be based on seeding methods and species planted. Tillage and equipment operations related to seeding and mulching will be performed in a manner to minimize soil erosion.

Seed Mix Development

<u>Seed Source</u> - The Project will utilize a mixture of perennial species in the permanent seed mixtures. Species will be chosen that are appropriate for the area and solar installations. Seeds mixtures will meet state seeding rules and regulations and all seed will be noxious weed free and sourced from reputable seeding vendors.

<u>Seed Specification/Diversity</u> - The project will utilize a diversity of plant species including grasses, sedges, forbs, cover crops, and companion vegetation. Specific varietals will be selected to provide better long-term health and self-sustainability.

Temporary Seed Mixture – Cover Crop and Companion Crop

Where permanent planting is delayed, one or more species may be selected from the table below to be used as a cover crop. Companion crops are species planted with the permanent seed mix that may be used to reduce the amount of erosion, suppress weeds, and provide added protection for permanent perennial vegetation seeded during first year plantings. One or more species may be selected from the table below to be used as a companion crop. Additionally, several species of wild rye grasses and seed oats are options provided in the permanent array and outside array seed lists below which successfully perform these functions.

Crawfish River Solar Project Cover Crop		
Lolium multiflorum	Annual rye	
Triticum aestivum	Winter wheat	
Avena sativa	Seed oats	

Permanent Array Seed Options

A definitive decision has not been made as to the design of the planting at this time and will be determined during the final engineering process. Some of the variables being considered in design of the planting plan include design that provides flexibility in management approach (i.e., weed and woody vegetation control), height, suitability to site conditions including shade and sun tolerance, and compatibility with facility components (i.e. stature). In any case, this permanent seeding is intended to act as a permanent BMP and allows for runoff, sediment, and other pollutants to be infiltrated or captured by

the vegetation. The table below provides an example list of the species from which the permanent seed mix may be selected for revegetation within the permanent solar array facility. The actual seed mix to be established may be a subset of the species listed below.

Crawfish River Solar Project		
Grass/Sedge/Rusl	n Species Options	
Grasses		
Bouteloua curtipendula	Side-oats Grama	
Carex brevior	Fescue Sedge	
Elymus trachycaulus	Slender Wheat Grass	
Eragrostis spectablis	Purple Love Grass	
Juncus dudleyi	Dudley's Rush	
Juncus tenuis	Path Rush	
Koeleria macrantha	Junegrass	
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye Grass	
Muhlenbergia mexicana	Leafy Satin Grass	
Poa pratensis	Kentucky Blue (low maintenance)	
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	

Permanent Outside Array Seed Options

Similar to the above, a definitive decision has not been made as to the design of the planting at this time and will be determined during the final engineering process. In any case, this permanent seeding is intended to act as a permanent BMP and allows for runoff, sediment, and other pollutants to be infiltrated or captured by the vegetation. The table below provides an example list of the species from which the permanent seed mix may be selected for revegetation outside of the solar array facility (i.e. between panels and fence and/or outside of fenced areas up to property boundaries). The actual seed mix to be established may be a subset of the species listed below. If possible, the establishment of native pollinator friendly vegetation will be considered.

Crawfish River Solar Project Grass/Sedge/Rush/Forb Species Options		
Grasses		
Bouteloua curtipendula	Side oats Grama	
Bromus kalmii	Prairie Brome	
Elymus canadensis	Canada Wild Rye	
Elymus hystrix	Bottlebrush Grass	
Elymus riparius	Riverbank Wild Rye	
Elymus trachycaulus	Slender Wheat Grass	
Elymus villosus	Hairy Wild Rye	
Elymus virginicus	Virginia Wild Rye	
Koeleria macrantha	June Grass	
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	
Sedges and Rushes		
Carex annectens	Yellow-headed Fox Sedge	
Carex bicknellii	Bicknell's Oval Sedge	
Carex gravida	Long-awned Bracted Sedge	
Carex molesta	Field Oval Sedge	
Carex vulpinoidea	Brown Fox Sedge	
Juncus dudleyi	Dudley's Rush	
Juncus tenuis	Path Rush	
Forbs		
Agastache foeniculum	Blue Giant Hyssop	
Anemone canadensis	Canada Anemone	
Astragalus canadensis	Canadian Milk Vetch	
Blephilia ciliata	Downy Wood Mint	

Crawfish River Solar Project Grass/Sedge/Rush/Forb Species Options		
Chamaecrista fasciculata	Partridge Pea	
Coreopsis palmata	Prairie Coreopsis	
Dalea candida var. candida	White Prairie Clover	
Dalea purpurea	Purple Prairie Clover	
Desmodium canadense	Showy Tick Trefoil	
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	
Euthamia graminifolia	Grass-leaved Goldenrod	
Lespedeza capitata	Round-headed Bush Clover	
Liatris pycnostachya	Prairie Blazing Star	
Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot	
Parthenium integrifolium	WildQuinine	
Penstemon digitalis	FoxgloveBeardtongue	
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Slender Mountain Mint	
Rudbeckia hirta	Black-eyed Susan	
Solidago juncea	Early Goldenrod	
Solidago nemoralis	Old Field Goldenrod	
Symphyotrichum drummondii	Drummond's Aster	
Symphyotrichum laeve	Smooth Blue Aster	
Symphyotrichum pilosum	Frost Aster	
Teucrium canadense	Germander	
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort	
Verbena stricta	Hoary Vervain	
Zizia aurea	Golden Alexanders	

Seeding Methods

Seed will be applied uniformly at specified rates by drilling, broadcasting, or hydroseeding. Seed will be sown between 0.25 and 0.5 inch deep based on method, species, soil type and available moisture. Seeding activities will be suspended if conditions are such that equipment will cause significant rutting of the surface in the designated seeding areas.

<u>Drill Seeding</u> - Seeding equipment will be capable of uniformly distributing the seed and sowing it at the required depth. Drills will be equipped with a feeding mechanism that will provide a uniform flow of seed at the desired application rate. Double-disc furrow openers equipped with depth bands and packer wheels to firm the soil over the seed will be used where appropriate. Other types of drill seeder maybe used based on availability and soil conditions.

<u>Broadcast Seeding</u> - Broadcast seeding rate will be double the drill-seeding rate. Seed will be uniformly distributed by mechanical or hand-operated seeder. Following seeding, a cultipacker, harrow, or hand rake will be used to cover the seeds and firm the seedbed as is appropriate for the area.

<u>Hydroseeding</u> - Hydroseeding rate will be double the drill seeding rate, or the same as broadcast seeding rate. Seed will be applied alone or in a seed, fertilizer and/or hydromulch slurry. If seeding is applied alone, the amount of hydromulch material will be adjusted to the seed slurry to show where seeding has taken place, providing a means to identify uniform cover. Hydroseeders must provide continuous agitation and be capable of supplying a continuous, non-fluctuating flow of slurry. Hydroseed slurry will not be held in the tank more than 1 hour before use.

Wetland Construction and Restoration Procedures

The project will result in temporary wetland impacts which will be mitigated through the use of construction matting, low-pressure construction equipment, or crossing when the wetland is frozen. Additionally, the collection system may require crossing wetlands by horizontal directional drill (no impact) or may require trench methods.

Clearing of localized trees or shrubs within wetlands will be completed by hand with limited equipment use, equipment impacts will be mitigated by the use of construction matting. Trees and shrubs will be cut flush with the surface of the ground and removed from the wetland. Stump removal is not anticipated so as to avoid excessive disruption of wetland soils and the existing seed and rootstock within the wetland soils.

Appropriate sediment barriers will be installed and maintained adjacent to wetlands and within workspace areas as necessary to minimize the potential for sediment runoff pursuant to the ECSWMP. Sediment barriers will be installed at the base of slopes adjacent to wetland boundaries. Any barriers disturbed during construction will be repaired upon discovery of damage. Once revegetation is successful, sediment barriers will be permanently removed and disposed of properly. Wetland areas where vegetation is disturbed by use of construction mats, low ground pressure equipment, or cable is installed by trench method, will be seeded with the seed mixes provided in the tables above. These seed mixes were specifically designed for the site and include a diversity of species including sedges and rushes that are suitable for wetland conditions. Separate seed mixes will not be designed specifically for wetland areas.

Invasive Species Management during Construction

During construction activities, appropriate BMP's will be employed to manage and limit the spread of invasive / noxious weed species as needed.

End-of-Construction Inspections

After the completion of major earthwork activities, all areas of the site will be inspected to ensure all disturbed areas have been seeded, and identify any areas that may need additional seeding or attention. Additional seeding will take place to ensure adequate coverage to ensure the necessary vegetative growth to allow for the Notice of Termination of the Stormwater or General permit.

Final Stabilization

As outlined in the project ECSWMP, final stabilization is achieved when permanent erosion control BMPs are applied and functioning on the site. The permanent erosion control BMPs may be a combination of vegetative and non-vegetative cover types. Additional requirements to achieving final stabilization include:

- All soil disturbing activity is complete;
- Permanent stormwater treatment system (if required) is constructed and accumulated sediment from construction activity has been removed;
- All temporary, synthetic BMPs have been removed from the site;

- In agricultural areas (as applicable), the construction activity area has been restored to the preconstruction agricultural use; and
- The vegetative cover for the site is at a density, with a uniform (without large bare areas) perennial cover of 70 percent or greater of the preconstruction conditions.

OPERATIONS AND ONGOING MAINTENANCE

Routine annual vegetation maintenance, which may include mowing, invasive plant control, trimming and tree removal, and perimeter fence vegetation management, will be conducted regularly within the fenced area of the solar array. Vegetation maintenance such as mowing or clearing will not be conducted in wetlands that are not within the project fence.

Mowing

Mowing will be the primary means of controlling vegetation within the fenced area of the solar array. The goals of mowing are to reduce vegetation height, reduce flowering of undesirable vegetation, and maintain light at the ground surface to encourage germination and growth of desirable species. Mowing also allows natural fertilization to take place.

Mowing within the solar array may be conducted by the Owner's maintenance crews one or more times per year, depending on growing conditions. Due to anticipated weed seed bank presence at the beginning of the project, more frequent mowing may be required during the establishment of permanent grass cover so that weeds are cut before they flower and produce seeds. Frequent mowing favors grasses which grow from the base of the leaf and store a greater portion of their biomass below ground.

Years 3-5 represent a transition phase where desirable vegetation becomes increasingly established but remains susceptible to weed growth. The frequency of cutting may be reduced, or transition to selective mowing to target specific areas of weed growth and minimize vegetation height under the PV panels.

Over the long-term, it is expected that mowing can be further reduced. Mowing at this stage may be done to reduce thatch and litter build-up and minimize the establishment of woody vegetation.

To prevent excessive soil compaction, mowing should only take place a day or more after significant rainfall events. Grass within the solar arrays should be mowed at a height not less than 8-12 inches. Grass outside the solar arrays may be left slightly taller, if desired. Grasses as part of a pollinator friendly habitat should be cut to a height of 20 to 30 inches.

Invasive Plant Control

Invasive plant species are poised to invade new areas opened up during construction of the solar array. Management of invasive plants and weeds during the first 1-2 years during the establishment of grasses within the arrays should be achieved by using frequent mowing.

Once permanent vegetation has been established, targeted weed-whipping or hand pulling may be used to manage areas where invasive or noxious weeds occur, particularly around inverter skids and combiner boxes

If needed, spot-spraying and chemical-based weed control should target only noxious/invasive weed species. Plantings that include both grasses and forbs should not be broadcast-sprayed. Chemical controls may be necessary in situations where topography, growth rate, species-specific factors, worker safety, or environmental/social concerns limit the potential for control by physical or mechanical methods.

Applications of chemical herbicides must be applied by a state-licensed professional. A list of licensed applicators will be provided to the Owner and contractors. The selected applicators will be provided a copy of the invasive species inventory and be requested to prepare a plan to target the specific species and infested areas of the site. The Owner and contractor will review and approve the plan prior to implementation. All state and federal laws will be adhered to during the treatment process.

Treatment may include foliar applications with sprayers, cut and treat, and stem injection. The plan will include monitoring and reporting on the need to repeat treatment. Herbicides will be applied according to the label.

The Project will endeavor to employ the following BMPs when herbicides are used to manage undesirable vegetation:

- Vegetation managers will apply principles of integrated vegetation management. Herbicides may be used as one of several available tools in the toolbox to manage vegetation and habitats in an ecologically sensitive manner in addition to cutting, engineering controls, and cultural controls
- Low volumes of herbicides and adjuvants will be used to target undesirable plants. When practicable, herbicide applicators will utilize targeted application techniques and properly calibrated equipment to limit environmental effects
- The lowest concentrations of herbicides and adjuvants as recommended by product labels will be used to achieve intended outcomes
- Selective herbicides will be used to limit effects on non-target plants
- Herbicide applications will be conducted during favorable weather conditions to minimize off-site drift. Large-scale applications will not be conducted within 48 hours of a significant rainfall event (0.5-inch or greater)
- Herbicide labels and Safety Data Sheets should be reviewed prior to mixing and application

Additional BMPs may be developed, as needed, based on site conditions

Trimming & Tree Removal

Trees and brush that have exceeded height limitations may be trimmed or cut by chain saw as necessary.

Perimeter Fence Vegetation Management

The areas outside the perimeter fence between the fence and property boundaries will be inspected twice per year for vegetation conditions and mowed with brush mowers or similar at minimum once per year to control growth and weed transmission.

Vegetative Buffer Management

Any grasses and landscaping planted as part of a designated vegetative buffer will be inspected twice per year, once in the spring post-winter and once in the late-summer/early fall. The vegetative buffer will be maintained as needed to preserve its purpose, which may include mowing, trimming, and other types of maintenance as needed.

Alternative Vegetation Management Activities

Grazing may be considered to reduce vegetation height and reduce invasive broadleaf species on a seasonal basis. If a grazing strategy is selected, a plan will be developed to ensure compliance with the county's Zoning ordinance related to animal number limits as well as standards regarding animals kept for at least 90 days in any 12-month period. The project will work with landowners to ensure they have what they need to meet any requirements for pastures and nutrient management planning. The project will follow a National Resource Conservation Service-Wisconsin prescribed grazing plan. If grazing animals are to be used, the project will notify the relevant Planning and Zoning Department within 5 days of the animals arriving on the property, to provide the Department with the type of animals and location of animals, the number of animals and the length of time the animals will remain on property.