

**JOINT INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE TOWNS OF CLOVERLAND, LINCOLN, WASHINGTON,
AND THE CITY OF EAGLE RIVER**

THIS AGREEMENT entered into this ____ day of _____, 2007 by and between the Towns of Cloverland, Lincoln, Washington and the City of Eagle River; and

WHEREAS Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes allows towns and cities to enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements for the purpose of joint management of matters of common interest within their respective jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS all shorelines of the Vilas County portion of the Eagle River Chain of Lakes, including all individual water bodies and interconnecting portions of the Eagle River and the Wisconsin River constituting the Eagle River Chain of Lakes to the Otter Rapids dam, hereafter referred to as the Chain, are within the boundaries of the municipalities described above and which are participating in this agreement; and

WHEREAS the economic value of the Chain is well known to each municipality; and

WHEREAS Eurasian watermilfoil, hereinafter referred to as (EWM), an aquatic invasive species, hereinafter referred to as (AIS), has become established in varying degrees throughout the Chain; and

WHEREAS infestations of EWM and other AIS on the Chain can be best managed, both environmentally and economically, by regarding the Chain as one continuous body of water; and

WHEREAS the monetary costs of managing the EWM infestation will be significant and recognizing that funding support from outside these municipalities is limited;

NOW, THEREFORE it is agreed by the governing bodies of each of these municipalities and approved by each of the governing bodies of each of these municipalities that there is hereby created, pursuant to Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission, hereafter referred to as the Commission, for the purpose of coordinating aquatic invasive species awareness, prevention and management efforts on the Chain. Said commission shall be charged in accordance with the following:

1. Composition of Commission:

- A. Each of the four municipal governmental bodies shall appoint one Town Board or City Council official as its primary voting member of the Commission.

- B. Each municipality may designate one alternate representative of its governmental body to serve in the absence of its primary representative described in paragraph 'A' above. Such alternate members shall be recognized by the Commission and shall have the same powers and duties of the primary members when primary members are absent from Commission meetings.
- C. The Commission members shall designate a Chairperson to preside at its meetings and a Vice Chairperson who shall preside in the absence of the Chairperson. The Commission members shall also designate a recording secretary who shall be responsible for keeping minutes for all Commission meetings. The Commission members shall also designate a treasurer who shall keep track of all funds which are received by the Commission and all funds which are disbursed by the Commission and shall at each meeting present a report on the current status of all funds on hand, and all expenditures currently pending.
- D. All qualified Lake Associations as created under Section 281.68(3m) of the Wis. Stats. shall designate a representative to sit on a Committee which shall advise the Commission as to treatment options, prevention options, and contractors. The members of the qualified Lake Associations shall not have voting rights with respect to the Commission.

2. Meetings of Commission:

- A. The Commission is a public body as defined in 19.81et. Seq. of the Wis. Stats., and therefore subject to Wisconsin Open Meeting laws. The Commission as such is also subject to the Open Records laws of the State of Wisconsin as constituted in Sec. 19.21 et. Seq. of the Wis. Stats. Further, members of the Commission, both primary members and alternates, are subject to the Code of Ethics for local governmental officials as set forth in Sec. 19.59 of the Wis. Stats.
- B. Meeting agendas and meeting minutes shall be posted as required by law, and shall be provided to elected officials of the participating municipalities in a timely manner as determined by both the participating municipalities and the Commission.
- C. The Commission meetings shall be called by the Chairperson of the Commission or in that individual's absence by the Vice Chairperson of the Commission as deemed necessary, and as permitted by law.

3. Duration:

- A. The Commission's duration shall continue unless terminated earlier by the mutual agreement of the participating municipal governments.

4. Authority of Commission:

- A. The Commission shall have no independent authority to enter into binding agreements without first having received the consent and authority from the participating municipal governments on a contract by contract basis. Each participating municipal government shall vote and record its vote, and so notify the Commission of its vote in writing.

- B. The Commission shall attempt to develop a long range plan for managing aquatic invasive species throughout the Chain in accordance with whatever guidelines are developed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- C. The Commission shall annually identify and develop a budget to determine the projected costs to fund the recommended management plan for each lake in each municipality and sponsoring Lake Association. Each municipalities' share of the costs of any management plan for a lake located within its corporate boundaries shall be defined pursuant to the shared funding formula which is determined by shoreline miles, as exhibited in attachment "A", a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof as though fully set forth herein. The Commission will determine the cost share of each municipality in advance of the budget process that each municipality must adhere to.
- D. The Commission shall attempt to seek additional sources of funding to support the goals and functions of the Commission.
- E. The Commission shall seek authorization from the participating municipal governments to this agreement in order to apply for other grants, which may provide funding and also to sponsor grants which may fund programs to prevent the further spread of, or to manage existing infestations of aquatic invasive species on the Chain.
- F. The Commission shall attempt to coordinate and engage community volunteers in joint efforts to raise awareness of AIS and collectively destroy the existence of AIS everywhere in the Chain.

Agreed to this 11 day of April, 2007 by the Cloverland Town Board

By: Scott Harnisch, Chairman, Town of Cloverland

By: Mildred Ritzer, Clerk, Town of Cloverland
Mildred Ritzer

Agreed to this 10 day of April, 2007 by the Lincoln Town Board

By: Dea Sturgeon, Chairman, Town of Lincoln

By: Shelly Sauvola, Clerk, Town of Lincoln
Shelly Sauvola

Agreed to this 20 day of April, 2007 by the Washington Town Board

By: James Sanborn, Chairman, Town of Washington

By: James Sanborn, Clerk, Town of Washington
James Sanborn

Agreed to this 10 day of April, 2007 by the Eagle River City Council

By: Jeffrey A. Hyslop, Mayor, City of Eagle River
Jeffrey A. Hyslop

By: Debra A. Brown, Clerk, City of Eagle River
Debra A. Brown