



Vilas County Land & Water Conservation

330 Court Street • Eagle River, WI 54521

715-479-3747 • Fax: 715-479-3627 • [http:// www.vilasconservation.com](http://www.vilasconservation.com)

January 14, 2021

Ms. Jessica Koski, Regional Fish & Wildlife Biologist / Program Manager
Bureau of Indian Affairs Midwest Regional Office
5600 American Boulevard West,
Bloomington, MN 55437

Dear Ms. Jessica Koski,

I am writing this letter of support for the proposal *Building a Comprehensive Invasive Species Database* being submitted for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Invasive Species (IS) Program by Andre Virden, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Coordinator of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians' Natural Resource Department (LDFNRD).

LDFNRD is proposing to build a comprehensive invasive species database that would contain all previous, current and future-planned invasive species data and projects. This project aims to build up the current work that the LDFNRD is actively working on to prevent, monitor and manage invasive species within the exterior boundaries of the reservation and surrounding communities. In addition, LDFNRD will be continuing educational opportunities, such as the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) program and developing educational resources for the community.

LDFNRD partners with multiple organizations including Vilas County Land & Water Conservation to combat invasive species within the exterior boundaries of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation and in surrounding areas.

Vilas County Land & Water Conservation is in support of LDFNRD and their efforts as they seek funding to help protect the Lac du Flambeau Reservation and ceded territory and will partner with LDFNRD where possible throughout project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Higley".

Catherine Higley, Lake Conservation Specialist
cahigl@vilascountywi.gov