

**Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC)
Action Team Work Goals 2015**

Monitoring Action Team:

Members	Contact
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2015 Purpose:

Encourage expanded mapping of invasive species throughout the WRISC Area. Facilitate entry of mapping data into a central database (Midwest Invasive Species Information Network, www.misin.msu.edu). Provide resources to WRISC partners to encourage better treatment tracking and pre and post monitoring of key infestations or control efforts.

Regular Meetings:

Meets on odd numbered months via conference call. Meeting times are scheduled by the WRISC Coordinator using doodle poll results.

2015 Goals:

1. Continue to collect invasive location data from WRISC partners. Seek existing data not in spreadsheet/MISIN and encourage prompt reporting of new data.
2. Conduct 2015 mapping training.
3. Dedicate time and effort to quality management of WRISC's internal data. Improve training of staff and explore more ways to use location data.
4. Continue to use and promote invasive treatment tracking to ensure effective monitoring.

March 9, 2015 Meeting Agenda (1:00pm)

In attendance: Emily Anderson, Darcy Rutkowski, Ann Hruska, John Preuss, Quinn Collins

1. Final edits/comments on 2015 team goals
A small modification was made to Goal 4 – the new language is “Continue to use and promote invasive treatment tracking to ensure effective monitoring.”
2. Strategic Mgmt Plan: Opportunity for action team to give input (focus on Goals 2 and 3)
The team provided input on these goals and Emily will incorporate our suggestions into the updated draft Strategic Mgmt Plan.
3. Decide on tentative 2015 mapping training date/location(s)
Darcy reported that WRISC members are welcome to attend a GPS/MISIN Mapping training workshop which is being sponsored by the UP RC&D Council in Marquette on May 28. This training will be similar to the training which UPRCD & WRISC have hosted the past two years. The committee agreed that a WRISC-sponsored training would be more effective in mid-June when all the seasonal staff are in place. Suggest holding the training in MI to take advantage of

the new MISGP funding WRISC received, and to help meet the deliverables of that grant. The training will incorporate some elements of the previous training sessions but also information about additional mapping and monitoring techniques such as QGIS.

4. 2015 Survey Priority Locations for new MEF grant

The committee suggested the following survey locations as priorities: compile a list of the gravel borrow sites that road crews are using and survey those; the US 41 corridor in/near Marinette; more survey work in Menominee County; state forest roads in Dickinson County

5. Adopt a Spot: Apply for continued funding in May?

The current Adopt-A-Spot grant that WRISC has expires in June. Three groups are currently enrolled in the project, with another interested in it for this summer. Committee is in favor of applying for more WI Adopt-A-Spot funding, this would complement the new funds which became available for a similar program in the MI counties through the new MISGP funding. Need to ensure that WRISC treatment tracking forms are being utilized for all WRISC-funded treatment (including Adopt-A-Spot locations).

6. Other

Emily wanted some input from the committee regarding a potential monitoring experiment which could be implemented by staff and volunteers to monitor the effects and timing of cutting Eurasian Swamp Thistle as a management tool. She will develop some draft protocols for this experimental design and send those to the committee for their input. Darcy suggested that she might contact staff from the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve, and the Hiawatha National Forest as they are both doing quite a bit of swamp thistle management.

Emily also asked for input regarding the management of a large patch of garlic mustard outside of Crandon. WRISC is working with the landowner and the county (which has neighboring land) to develop a 5 year management plan, but Emily is unsure what to put in the plan to monitor the population as it is treated. Darcy suggested that Teri might have some good ideas and that in Alger transects with several people helped to map large infestations over various terrain.

7. BOD Agenda Item(s)

Strategic Management Plan