

Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC)

Action Teams 2015

Terrestrial Invasive Species Action Team:

Members	Contact
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2015 Purpose:

The Terrestrial Action Team addresses both management and outreach regarding the detection and control of non-native terrestrial and wetland invasive species. Address existing and newly-detected species: prioritizing species for management, educating regarding specific species or control methods, and utilizing an integrated approach to manage current invasive species populations. The committee provides guidance for land managers, landowners, sportsmen, and recreationists, and implements control measures as time and funding allows.

2015 Regular Meetings:

Meets on odd numbered months via conference call. Meeting times are scheduled by the WRISC Coordinator using doodle poll results. To join call dial **401-283-4156** and enter code **34985**.

2014 Goals:

1. Focus outreach, prevention, and management efforts on Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), and other high priority species throughout the work area, including early detection and rapid response species.
2. Continue and encourage invasive species education and outreach to area road crews. Support road crews with educational materials, training, and assistance when able.
3. Include area citizens in terrestrial invasive control through volunteer workdays. Strive for a minimum of one workday per county in 2015.

November 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes (9:00-9:45am)

In attendance: Scott Goodwin (for Margie Yadro), Aaron McCullough, Greg Cleereman

1. Northern Great Lakes Invasive Species Conference: Update/New info, Discussion

Emily updated the team on new information received at the NGLISC in Marquette.

- a. **Herbicide storage, equipment, regulations info:** *According to Lee Shambewa (4Control), herbicide does not lose efficacy from being frozen, but you do face the danger of having containers break. Most herbicide labels state that you can freeze concentrated herbicide as long as it is re-agitated before use. Likewise, "old" concentrated herbicide (such as 5-10 yrs old) can still be used. There is however a limited shelf life for mixed herbicide, particularly if exposed to sunlight which can degrade it. Based on this, WRISC will be storing their herbicide in Kingsford in the outdoor shed but with added spill trays in case of leakage.*

David White (MDARD) reiterated that anyone applying pesticide as part of their employment in Michigan needs to be certified (whether or not they are applying it as a business or part of a grant project). That said, volunteers (not paid) do not have to be certified to apply pesticides. According to Emily they are hoping to add additional MI testing locations/dates since currently WRISC staff have to go to Munising and have few dates available after spring. They also found in 2014 that having WI pesticide applicators get reciprocity in MI was easy, except if the individual was a MI resident in which case they were required to test in MI.

- b. Fire and invasive species:** *While the DNR is most likely to use fire as an invasive mgmt. tool, Emily reported several interesting updates on this topic during a presentation by the Lake States Fire Science Consortium. Of note were: burning during growing season, back burns to increase heat/kill roots, and the likelihood that burning can volatilize knapweed allelopathic chemicals. Aaron agreed with recommendations and directed anyone who is interested to the group's website.*
 - c. Japanese Knotweed control:** *Several updates on this from Lee Shambeau and Nick Cassel (Eastern UP CWMA):*
Milestone (current chemical used by WRISC) may soon be labeled for aquatic use, however restriction on landscaped areas is not likely to change because of residual activity in grass clippings.
Imazapyr is being used very successfully in the eastern UP. To avoid off target effects on trees, use the proper concentration and avoid oaks and maples (particularly oaks) which are more sensitive to this chemical. Nick has also successfully used cut-stem applications but cutting stems and FILLING them with his regular foliar spray mix. Emily is exploring the use of Imazapyr for next year since it can be used in backyards and along water, she will be researching it more first.
Lee Shambeau and others are using Vanquish (dicamba) on knotweed. First year results are very promising, but they are looking to see what regrowth they have in 2016.
 - d. Other CPS herbicide recommendations:** *Emily has an updated list of herbicide recommendations from Lee Shambeau/Crop Production Services along with the stock solution recipe for escort (will send to action team). Of note is a new chemical Opensight (a mix of milestone and escort) that can be used to target parsnip and thistle at the same time. Lee also had several things to say about his experience with black locust control, including his preference for basal bark treatments over cut stump.*
- 2. 2015 Control Work summary (Emily): Targets, Successes, Troubles:** *Emily gave an update on 2015 control work: ~100 acres treated, 46 landowners/managers worked with, and 31 landowner permission forms collected (which was very helpful in gathering landowner contact info). Main species controlled were: Garlic Mustard, Leafy Spurge, Wild Parsnip, Knotweed, and Purple Loosestrife. Multiple species were controlled during workdays and new/small/isolated populations were also controlled for: Milfoil, Cut-Leaf Teasel, Thistle, and Valerian. Greg asked whether WRISC was on track in 2015 for grant funds available. Emily believed so, but toward the end of the field season it was difficult to tell since FY2013 GLRI funds needed to*

be used rapidly before expiring. Ann later clarify via email that in 2015 we were on track for spending and grant deliverables, even exceeding our acreage goals.

The team agreed that the 2015 species treated are the species we should be targeting, and that new/isolated/rare populations that are discovered will continue to also be a priority.

3. Knotweed update: Bohemian knotweed in Crandon? WDNR Rapid Response funding?

Because of the NR40 update listing the hybrid Bohemian Knotweed as Prohibited, WRISC paid Rosie Page (WHIP/LumberjackRC&D) to investigate populations in and around Crandon to determine species type. Emily still needs to see all of the data, but Rosie believes several of the populations contain Bohemian knotweed. As a prohibited species, this could qualify for WDNR Rapid Response Funding. Since the populations are all in the same area, if approved WRISC may be able to just contract this work leaving staff time available for other control work. Aaron said his experience with rapid response funding was positive and the team agreed that it was a good idea to pursue this and consider contracting the control work.

4. Roadway Mapping Results: next steps for 2016 follow-up

After and during 2015's roadside mapping of spurge and parsnip WRISC was able to get permission for county road treatments in Dickinson, Florence, and Marinette counties. Emily is hoping to use the survey results over the winter to increase treatments by WRISC and partners. Plans are to: make contact with Menominee Road Commission (the one county we did not contact in 2015), make contact with WI and MI DOT for WRISC to treat isolated populations and have them at least adjust mowing based on survey results, and work with several people in Florence to plan parsnip control (WRISC spot spraying, timed mowing, maybe even USFS treating outside of mowed areas). The team was supportive of this plan.

5. Other

6. BOD Agenda item(s)

WRISC Herbicide Storage Update

WDNR Rapid Response Funding – Crandon Knotweed