

## **WRISC Update**

Prepared by Emily Anderson

BOD Meeting 6-1-2016

Florence, WI

### **Since the Last Meeting**

- *Lindsay attended with UP RC&D:* Ingallston Twp Meeting (April 11)
- *Emily attended with booth:* Florence Garden Conference (April 16)
- *Emily attended/presented:* Wisconsin AIS Partnership Meeting (April 20)
- *Emily attended/presented:* Wisconsin CISMA Meeting (April 21)
- *Emily attended with UP RC&D:* Menominee Twp Meeting (April 27)
- Crandon Clean Boats Clean Waters training (April 29)
- *WRISC/Florence Co. hosted:* Florence Clean Boats Clean Waters training (May 25)
- Crandon Clean Boats Clean Water training (May 27)
- WRISC Annual Meeting (June 1)

### **Upcoming Events**

- *Attending/participating in:* Dickinson Outdoor Extravaganza (June 4)
- Wisconsin Free Fishing Weekend (June 4-5)
- Michigan Free Fishing Weekend (June 11-12)
- Wisconsin Drain Campaign (June 10-12)
- Menominee CD Summer Camp Hike (June 17, 24)
- Harmony Arboretum Invasive Program (June 23)
- WI AIS Landing Blitz (July 1-4)
- MI AIS Landing Blitz – Lake Antoine Park (July 4)
- Crandon Snail/Mussel Workshop (July 15)
- Menominee County Fair (July 22-24)
- Crandon Kentuck Day (June 30)

### **WE Energies Mitigation and Enhancement Fund (MEF) Strike Team**

Emily attended the Florence Garden Conference with lots of information on invasives for gardeners, including new information on jumping worms. She also attended a statewide WI CISMA meeting which included lots of information sharing and updates from the DNR, DATCP, and IPAW. Most time was spent preparing for the summer field season scheduling new events and planning field work. A QGIS database was completed using data batch downloaded from MISIN and edited to include known treatment history and landowner contacts. It was also sorted by status for 2016 plans (treat, survey, delete duplicate record, etc.). The WRISC treatment report form was revised and a companion shapefile was created for entry of all treatment records as polygon shapefiles for better long term population monitoring.

### **GLRI – Rapid Response/Coordinator**

Similar to MEF Strike Team, work continued planning for 2016 activities including events and field work.

### **GLRI – Boat Wash**

Emily attended an in person meeting of the WI AIS Partnership in April and participated in an online webinar CBCW trainer refresher. Work was also done researching possible events for boatwash use this summer and registering for AIS

events including the WI and MI AIS Landing Blitzes and the WI Drain Campaign. Additional boatlanding “freebies” such as keychains and can cozies were purchased from the Clean Drain Dry campaign. The revised Partner boatwash use agreement was reviewed and approved by the Dickinson Conservation District Board of Directors. Final grant award paperwork was received for the GLRI Boatwash FY2015 grant funds. While the majority of 2016 field work will be through the 2014 fiscal year GLRI funds, FY2015 will provide some staff time towards the end of summer and have already been used to purchase a new portable boatwash. A containment pad for use with the boatwash in Michigan was also purchased and is expected to arrive soon.

Staff were hired for CBCW/Boatwash work through WRISC and Marinette County. A joint Clean Boats Clean Waters and boatwash training was conducted in Florence attended by WRISC, Marinette, and Florence county staff and citizens. WRISC Partners Cary Anderson (FCLARA) and the WDNR assisted with the boatwash training portion. Staff began field work under this grant over Memorial Day weekend.

Boatwash status update: One WRISC boatwash has already been issued to Marinette County for their crew to utilize through the summer. The new boatwash will be utilized by the WRISC crew out of Kingsford pending some final work replacing trailer wiring on WRISC vehicles. The third boatwash is currently undergoing pump repairs but will then stay in Florence for use by WDNR fisheries staff. Pending approval of the WRISC Partner Boatwash Use Agreement, this boatwash may also be used later in the summer by WRISC Partners such as Florence County.

### **Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP)**

WRISC received a response from our October 2015 interim report which requested additional financial reporting particularly for reported match materials. An interim progress was prepared and submitted for the April 2016 reporting period under new reporting guidelines from grant organizers and including missing information from the first October interim report. Following the progress report a financial report and request for reimbursement was submitted in May along with a request to MISGP for an extension of the project end date from October 31, 2016 to December 31, 2016. WRISC Partners and volunteers provided great support through the MISGP reporting process by completing timesheets to capture **approximately \$10,000 of in-kind match** mostly from time spent on the WRISC Board and Action Teams. Work continued planning for summer field work and events. Continued lake monitoring this year will include the new CLMP parameter called Score the Shore which staff were all trained on through a MiCorps online training video. Three groups have signed up so far to adopt properties in Michigan to adopt properties for invasive species mapping. Piers Gorge and JW Wells State Park were selected as the locations for Boot Brush stations through this grant, and locations for Play Clean Go trailhead signs are secured for ORV trailheads in Dickinson and Menominee counties. New panels were printed and will soon be installed on the WRISC Portable Billboard which will be deployed at Michigan locations this year. Work is still underway to find suitable boat landings for the Clean Drain Dry stencils.

### **UP RC&D Pulling Together Grant**

No update at this time.

### **UP RC&D Phragmites Project**

Emily and Lindsay continued to attend township meetings along with UP RC&D staff conducting project update presentations.

### **WI DNR AIS Early Detection/Rapid Response Knotweed Grant (Lumberjack RC&D)**

Final grant paperwork was received and processed by Lumberjack RC&D. Emily met with Rosie Page, who will be conducting the majority of field work under this grant, to transfer files and outline grant requirements.

### ***WI DNR WMA grant proposal***

No response yet on this proposal.

## ***WE Energies MEF Strike Team II Preproposal***

WE Energies has accepted WRISC's preproposal and requested a full proposal with budget be submitted by July 15.

## ***MISGP FY2016 Preproposal***

Emily and Lindsay are currently finalizing the details of a preproposal for the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program fiscal year 2016 funding cycle. The grant program now allows for projects of 1, 2, or 3 years in length, continues its CISMAs focus area, and includes a priority on helping CISMAs fulfill their Strategic Management Plans. Plans for WRISC's Preproposals include a 3 year project for 2017-2019 to fulfill multiple Strategic Mgmt Plan goals and provide part-time funding for the WRISC Coordinator.

## **Misc.**

Summer Staff: Charissa Kasian, Lillian Slajus, and Jarrod Folkman were all hired as WRISC seasonal staff primarily to conduct invasive species control and CBCW/Boatwash outreach at boatlandings. Staff started work on May 23, received terrestrial invasive training, CBCW training, and boatwash operation training. We are also in the process of having all staff become certified pesticide applicators.

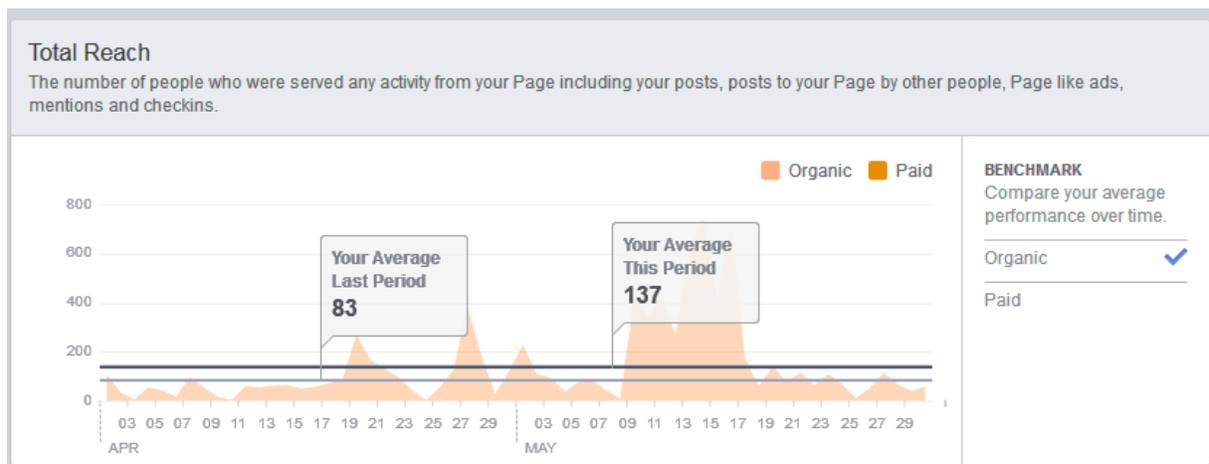
Partner Survey: The online partner survey was sent out to WRISC Partners and their agents in April. So far 15 responses have been collected. Some trends in feedback are:

- Most popular prioritization for WRISC goals follows 1. Prevention through education 2. Early detection and rapid response 3. Organizational collaboration 4. Control and management 5. Restoration.
- While almost all survey takers agreed that Restoration is the least priority for WRISC, they also highlighted this as an area to improve upon.
- All survey responders agreed that Email notices are a preferred method of communication and that they are happy with the amount and content of emails they receive.

Newsletters: WRISC's spring newsletter was completed in April and included a highlight on Emerald Ash Borer, WRISC's new signage through the MI grant, events, and an article by John Preuss on AIS/CBCW work in Forest County.

Website/Facebook: The WRISC website has continued to receive regular updates for events and meetings. The WRISC website had **135 visitors in April and 102 visitors in May.**

Facebook has continued to receive regular updates of invasive articles, links, pictures, etc. The WRISC Facebook page has gone from 181 likes (at the last BOD meeting) to **190 likes** at the end of May. The graph below shows the total reach for our Facebook page for the months of April and May where our **average reach was 137**. Total reach April-May below.



We also had one of our most popular posts ever linking to an article on recent research showing high numbers of deer ticks associated with exotic honeysuckle infestations. This post was shared 30 times and reached 2,234 people!

Below: Popular facebook post (left) and most visited website pages during May (right).

**Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition**  
Published by Emily Anderson (7) · May 13 at 11:21am · 🌐

"Many studies around the world are showing an increase in the risk of infectious disease as a result of the loss of biological diversity. It's hard to get people to focus on invasive plants... But people are more likely to pay attention when their health is at stake."

**Invasive honeysuckle increase risk of tick-borne disease in suburbs**  
We often read about dreadful new zoonoses — animal diseases that are now infecting people — that have jumped species in distant parts of the world such...  
SCIENCEAILY.COM

2,234 people reached Boost Post

Like Comment Share

Charlie Halbleib, Patricia Warrington and 3 others

30 shares

Write a comment...

Content						
	Pages	Entrance	Exit	Downloads	Events	Media
<a href="#">/</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition	72				-999%
<a href="#">/Documents</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	18				0%
<a href="#">/job-postings-2</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	14				0%
<a href="#">/apps/photos/photo?photoid=88016041</a>	Japanese Knotweed	8				0%
<a href="#">/wisc-partners</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	8				0%
<a href="#">/apps/calendar/</a>	Calendar	6				0%
<a href="#">/apps/photos/photo?photoid=88016042</a>	Japanese Knotweed	5				0%
<a href="#">/contact-us</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	5				0%
<a href="#">/volunteer-opportunities</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	5				0%
<a href="#">/apps/calendar/showEvent?callID=21440...</a>	WRISC Annual Meeting	4				0%
<a href="#">/species-profiles</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	4				0%
<a href="#">/report-it</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	4				0%
<a href="#">/action-teams</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition - ...	4				0%
<a href="#">/apps/calendar/showEvent?callID=21440...</a>	WRISC Annual Meeting	3				0%

### Correspondence of note:

- New Partner Applications: Dickinson County, Fumee Lake Commission
- Thank-you letters from Iron Mountain High School for Invasive Species field day at school forest
- Thank you and speaker evaluation from Northern Lights Master Gardeners Association for March garden conference invasive species session
- Requests for information on WRISC boatwash program (ISCCW summer staff and general WI AIS listserv request)
- WDNR AIS Rapid Response Grant Paperwork for Lumberjack/WRISC Forest County Knotweed project
- GLRI Boatwash FY2015 grant paperwork