

## **WRISC Update**

Submitted by WRISC Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson  
BOD Meeting 4-5-2017  
Marinette, WI



### **Since the Last Meeting**

- 2/8/2017 – NMU Job Fair
- 3/15/2017 – WI AIS/CISMA Partnership Meeting – Green Bay, WI
- 3/24/2017 – Lake Stakeholder Meeting

### **Upcoming Events**

- Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program – 1<sup>st</sup> UP Training – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017
- Florence CBCW Training – May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 3-6pm
- WRISC Annual Meeting – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### **Grants:**

**Red** = Ending / Recently Closed; **Yellow** = Pending Proposal; **Green** = New / Recently Awarded; **Black** = Existing Award

### **WE Energies Mitigation and Enhancement Fund (MEF) Strike Team (2015-2016)**

Extension request for March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 for this grant was approved August 16<sup>th</sup>. With this extension, this grant will continue to fund the Coordinator position part time and allow for a more effective transition to a new coordinator in the spring. This grant continues to fund a majority of Coordinator's hours (approx. 20hrs/week). Finalizing checks of new data for MISIN submission, updating database, etc., is a majority of the activity right now. Will be moving into Summer 2017 planning and preparing for Summer Staff.

### **GLRI – Boat Wash**

One boat wash unit is out of storage as it was used for a demonstration at the WI AIS/CISMA Partnership Meeting in Green Bay. The other two units are still stored at the resource center in Florence and will be pulled as the weather warms and season approaches. Boat wash Service agreement with the WI DNR is in the process of being signed again for 2017. The Florence CBCW training has been scheduled.

### FY15

The remaining funds in FY15 Boatwash grant will go to Marinette County to fund a boatwash crew in that area in 2017.

### FY16

Still waiting on contract for these funds, but has been awarded. These funds will be used by WRISC summer staff to operate boatwash units and continue CBCW education at boat launches throughout the WRISC area.

### **Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) (2015-2016)**

This grant was closed out at the end of December and the final report was submitted in February. We haven't heard any updates regarding the report or grant close out yet. Lake management plans were presented to lake groups at a meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup>, which also included some grant wrap-up information for those participating in the project.

### **WI DNR AIS Early Detection/Rapid Response Knotweed Grant (Lumberjack RC&D) (2016-2017)**

No new work has been conducted related to this grant. Concerned about meeting deliverables for this grant.

Treatments were to be conducted last fall, but no landowners came forward to request treatment. WRISC will still seek to procure permissions from landowners and see what work can be completed.

### **WI DNR WMA Grant (2016-June 2018)**

A minimum of 9 private forest landowner partners are being sought for creation of a property map for invasive species, management recommendations, and limited rapid response control for top priority species.

At this point, 7 landowners have come forward and expressed interest in the project. A press release went out to garner more interest to obtain the last few landowners needed to meet the minimum and helped us gain a few more participants. Permissions are being secured and scheduling surveys and landowner workshops will be next step.

### **WE Energies MEF Strike Team II (2017-2018)**

WRISC received the full proposal award letter to this grant on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We received funding of \$76,532 over a two year period (\$38,266 each for 2017 and 2018), the full amount requested, to continue funding several of the activities already supported by our current MEF grant, including education/outreach, mapping, and control. This grant also includes specific items to engage industry professionals that are impacted by invasives (road crews, foresters, utility workers, etc.), and continue to study European Marsh Thistle. Through this grant WRISC should be able to fund a coordinator at 20hrs per week for 2017-2018, and a 2 person crew for 2 days per week each summer.

### **MISGP FY2016: WRISC Strategic Management Plan Project – AWARDED! (2017-2019)**

Award letter was received January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 announcing we received the grant for the total amount of requested funding at \$162,000 for a 3-year period. We're hoping the different grant cycle will help prevent a funding gap seeing as most WRISC grants are 2 year grants on matching cycles which can leave several winter/spring months quite low on funding. This grant will now help carry a coordinator through the winter, at least part time, in this event.

This grant will involve the re-write of the Strategic Management Plan, which will become a 5-year plan, as opposed to the current 3-year plan. A CISMA Operations Handbook will also be developed. The project also highlights monitoring in riverine settings as well as expanded cooperation with industrial and civic partners. Staffing funds for 3 years include: Coordinator for 3120 hours, Project Manager for 2496 hours, and Field Techs for 960 hours.

### **GLRI-USFS-CWMA: Targeting Invasives on Trails and Crossings in the Menominee River Watershed – AWARDED!**

Funding: full request of \$40,000, 2 years - however there will be about \$3,150 subtracted for Forest Service overhead and administration.

Project targets a new user group for WRISC – ATV/ORV groups. We hope to produce targeted outreach/education materials, survey and map ORV trails and control woody invasives in these areas. Have submitted work plan and the agreement process is underway for these funds.

### **GLRI-EPA-ISC: Menominee River Watershed – Invasive Species Detection & Control**

Requested Funding: \$204,000, 2 years (no match required!)

Pending – Proposal submitted January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Expected award notification in March.

Grant is similar to the USFS-CWMA GLRI proposal, but expanded. With this grant, we hope to do similar work with ATV/ORV trails, but also maintain some aquatic work as well, such as boat landing and road/stream crossing surveys for both terrestrial and aquatic invasives. This grant would allow WRISC to purchase some larger more expensive equipment as well, including: ORV and trailer, Underwater ROV for surveying, and a versatile DASH unit (vDASH).

**Misc.**

Staffing: Application window has closed for summer staff applicants. Current grant awards will allow the hiring of 4 summer staff. We have one staff member returning from 2016 and she will assist with duties outlined for the Project Manager position funded by the MISGP FY16 grant while also working on the crew and doing boatwash during busy weekends/holidays/events.

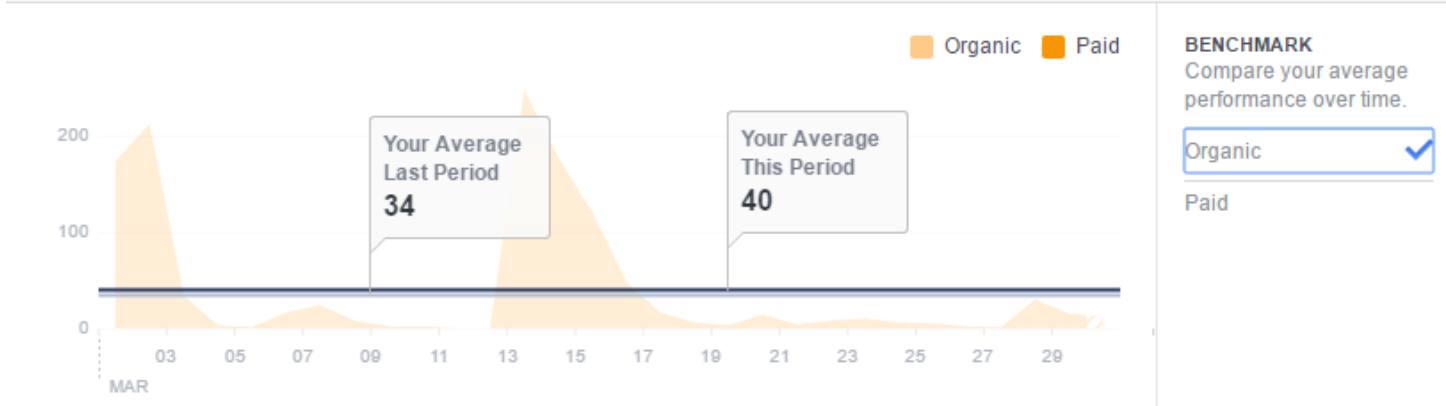
Newsletters: Spring newsletter is in the planning stages. Education/Outreach AT has started discussing this. Reminder that now only 3 newsletters will be produced annually to alleviate work in the summer months.

Website/Facebook: The WRISC website has continued to receive regular updates for events and meetings, and project opportunities for landowners. The WRISC website had **107 visitors in the last 30 days**. Image to the right shows pages most frequently visited. Being that time of year, the Job Postings page has increased in popularity.

Facebook has continued to receive regular updates of invasive articles, links, pictures, etc. The WRISC Facebook page continues to grow, having gone from 215 likes (at the last BOD meeting) to **220 likes** at the end of March. The graph below shows the total reach for our Facebook page for the months of February and March, where page activity **reached a total of 624 people** and our **average reach was 40**. Reach increased from the last period, but is still down from late fall and summer. Reach has begun to increase with summer preparation and hiring updates, and you can see that the frequency of posts is increasing as well. The Facebook page sees great reach whenever something is posted, it's just that there hasn't been much opportunity to post regularly enough for the average to be higher.

Content						
	Pages	Entrance	Exit	Downloads	Events	Media
<a href="#">/</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition	93				+999%
<a href="#">/job-postings-2</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	36				0%
<a href="#">/documents</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	14				0%
<a href="#">/wrisc-partners</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	8				0%
<a href="#">/contact-us</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	7				0%
<a href="#">/apps/calendar/showEvent?calID=214...</a>	WRISC Board Meeting	4				0%
<a href="#">/action-teams</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	4				0%
<a href="#">/board-of-directors</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	3				0%
<a href="#">/apps/calendar/</a>	Calendar	2				0%

**Total Reach**  
The number of people who were served any activity from your Page including your posts, posts to your Page by other people, Page like ads, mentions and checkins.



**Correspondence of note:**