

## WRISC Update

Submitted by WRISC Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson  
BOD Meeting 6-7-2017  
Florence, WI



### **Since the Last Meeting**

- Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program – 1<sup>st</sup> UP Training – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017
- Florence CBCW Training – May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 4-7pm
- Iron Mountain PBL Garlic Mustard Workday – May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017
- 30 Days Wild - Nature Fair – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### **Upcoming Events**

- Drain Campaign – June 9-11
- WI Landing Blitz – June 30-July 4
- MI Landing Blitz – July 1-9
- Menominee Co Fair – June 21-23, 2017
- Marinette Co Fair – August 24-27, 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)**

This grant was closed out, all money spent. Several supplies were replenished with remaining supplies money. Final payment was received.

### **GLRI – Boat Wash**

All boat wash units are out of storage and the crew is up and running with Clean Boats Clean Waters Education efforts. They have spent the first few weekends at Lake Antoine to iron out issues and to get comfortable with the program. The Boat Wash Service agreement with the WI DNR is still in the process of being signed again for 2017. With the switch in districts, the new management is taking VERY close look at the agreement and several minor revisions have been made. Still waiting on signature. The Florence CBCW training was held and was well attended! Aside from WRISC and Florence Co. staff, several employees of CUPCWMA and KISMA made the trip as well.

### FY15

The remaining funds in FY15 Boatwash grant will go to Marinette County to fund a boatwash crew in that area in 2017. Their boatwash unit has been picked up.

### FY16

Contract for these funds was received and signed. 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 have received final payment for this grant.

### **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. Communications with Lumberjack and grantors are underway.

### **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, 9 landowners have come forward and expressed interest in the project. A few remaining permissions are still being secured, but scheduling for surveys will occur over the next month.

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

We've just started drawing funds from this grant. This grant will fund Coordinator hours ½ time and will fund summer crew's wages. This grant will focus on invasive species management across the WRISC area as well as incorporating more professional partners in these management efforts. Will be speaking with grantors regarding European Marsh Thistle research aspect of grant and potentially removing from the project. This has also been discussed with the Monitoring Action Team.

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

We've just started drawing funds from this grant as well. These funds will pay for Coordinator ½ time and will supply summer crew wages. 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. The project also highlights monitoring in riverine settings as well as expanded cooperation with industrial and civic partners. This grant will pair nicely with both MEF and the GLRI CWMA grants.

### **GLRI-USFS-CWMA: Targeting Invasives on Trails and Crossings in the Menominee River Watershed (2017-2019) (aka GLRI NNIS)**

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. Contract has been signed and the planning process for surveys is underway.

### **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:** This year's crew consists of 4 staff members. We have one returning staff from last year, Charissa, who has been a huge help so far in getting everything geared up for the season. Everyone get along great and they all have passionate, enthusiastic personalities. It will not be a dull summer and having 4 crew members should allow us to split into two teams and cover more ground during the busy months. We have all been working hard on Garlic Mustard as it's quite early this season. I have been making a point to join the crew in the field, especially in their first few weeks. I will try to continue to have a field presence at least one day a week throughout the summer.

**Newsletters:** Spring newsletter has been completed and features invasive profiles, staff bios, and current projects for the summer. Reminder that now only 3 newsletters will be produced annually to alleviate work in the summer months.

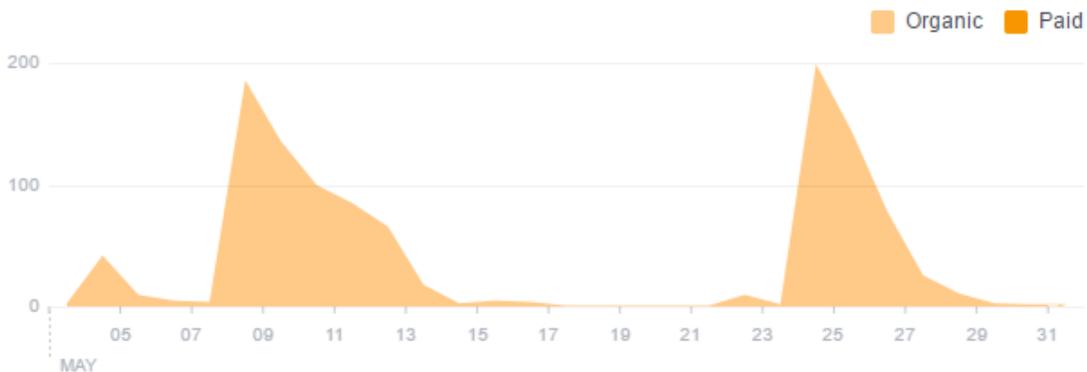
**Website/Facebook:** The WRISC website has continued to receive regular updates for events and meetings, and project opportunities for landowners. The WRISC website had **84 visitors in the last 30 days**. Image to the right shows pages most frequently visited.

Content				Pages	Entrance	Exit	Downloads	Events	Media
<a href="#">/</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition	82	0%						
<a href="#">/board-of-directors</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	8	0%						
<a href="#">/documents</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	6	0%						
<a href="#">/clean-boats-clean-waters</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	5	0%						
<a href="#">/michigan-project</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	4	+300%						
<a href="#">/photos</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	4	0%						
<a href="#">/job-postings-2</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	4	0%						
<a href="#">/apps/calendar/</a>	Calendar	4	0%						
<a href="#">/volunteer-opportunities</a>	Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...	3	0%						

Facebook has continued to receive regular updates of invasive articles, links, pictures, etc. The WRISC Facebook page continues to grow, having gone from 220 likes (at the last BOD meeting) to **230 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 page activity **reached a total of 449 people** and our **average reach was 46**. 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. We have also discussed allowing the summer crew to post updates, particularly with the boatwash to indicate where they are and hopefully encourage travelling boaters in the area to swing by for a quick wash! We will test this out and see how it goes.

## 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.



**BENCHMARK**  
Compare your average performance over time.

Organic

Paid