

WRISC Project Update

Submitted by WRISC Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson
BOD Meeting 8-7-2019
Crandon, WI



Recent Events

- Butternut Franklin Lakes Association Garlic Mustard Pull – June 15, 2019
- Menominee Islands Management Meeting – June 19, 2019
- 4th of July Parade – July 4, 2019
- AIS Landing Blitz – Week of July 4th
- MI Paddle Stewards Workshop – Menominee, MI – July 19, 2019
- Menominee County Fair – July 19-21, 2019
- Roadside Vegetation Management Workshop – July 25, 2019
- West Shore Fishing Museum Heritage Days – July 28, 2019

Upcoming Events

- CISMA Summer Field Trip – August 13-14
- Marinette County Fair – August 22-25
- Florence County Fair – August 23 - 25
- Dickinson County Fair – August 29 – Sept 2

Grants:

Red = Ending / Recently Closed; **Yellow** = Pending Proposal; **Green** = New / Recently Awarded;
Blue = Existing Award; **Purple** = OTHER/MISC.

WI DNR WMA Grant (2016-June 2018) – EXTENDED to JUNE 2019 - CLOSED

The management guide is being finalized and input is being sought from experts/professionals. The printing details have been finalized. The final development and printing of this guide did not consume the remaining budget but we're just going to turn back what is left. This project closed at the end of June and the final report is being reviewed at this time.

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

Goals are on track as we jump into year 3 of 3 for this project. More wages are being pulled from this fund, especially by project managers and coordinator, now that field activities are well underway. For treatments, many if not all of the Michigan sites fall under this grant for acreage with the exception of a few specific ones. Still awaiting clarification on some of the deliverables, specifically acreage vs. treated sites, and this will help determine if a limited extension of this project into the winter months will be necessary.

WE Energies MEF Expanding Community, Capacity, and Collaboration for Invasive Control

This project focuses on developing volunteer opportunities, increased funding for our Strike Team, and puts some special project efforts towards Purple Loosestrife (a priority for WE Energies).

Work began as soon as the previous MEF project was expended. Biocontrol beetles were received and planted on the stock plants. They did alright but not many beetles pupated or emerged. The beetles will be released to wild infestations soon. The volunteer platform is close to being launched, as crews were conducting surveys for monitoring sites. These have wrapped up and the site descriptions will be developed and then the program can launch.

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

Deliverables are on track for this project. There are only a few acres left to contribute to this project, a few miles of trail to survey, a couple stream crossings to monitor, and some signage to install. Workdays for this project are focusing on recreational hygiene and that has been well received by various age groups.

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

Extension approved – December 30, 2020

The vDASH is nearing completion. It was planned to hit the water by the end of June, but that deadline has since been pushed back. The pump system was tested in late June and was functional. WRISC staff are now fully certified divers and are insured to conduct DASH work once the unit is operational. As far as other deliverables are concerned, there is some more trail surveying to be done this season. Treatment acreage is on track. The ROV will also be utilized to conduct inland lake surveys this season once a generator is purchased.

GLRI – Boat Wash

Boatwash units have been removed from storage, but unfortunately many are not operational at this time, despite the professional maintenance and winterization that occurred in the fall.

[WRISC Boatwash FY17: Blocking the Recreational Boat Pathway](#)

Awarded! \$37,000 (\$33,850 after overhead) Contract Signed

Continue operating portable high pressure heated boatwash units at public boat ramps and fishing tournaments in the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) management area, which consists of 5 counties within the Lake Michigan Watershed in Michigan and Wisconsin. Continue to support public education by WRISC staff as well as local agencies and citizen groups on the aquatic invasive species recreational boat pathway.

[WRISC Boatwash FY18: Blocking the Recreational Boat Pathway](#)

Awarded! \$36,000 (less after overhead subtracted)

Deliverables: 3,000 User Contacts

Received contract documents for budget and project work plan.

WRISC Boatwash FY19: WRISC Boatwash Program

Proposal Submitted, Requested: \$40,000

Deliverables: 3,000 boater contacts

WRISC Invasive Species Pathways Education, Play Clean Go

Billboards are all rented and two locations were up from mid-June through mid-July, with the remaining ones going up in August and September. We will be focusing on getting some TV coverage as well this coming year. Also listen for more radio ads and PSAs. WRISC Coordinator has also been participating on the Play Clean Go Eastern Expansion Advisory Council to help expand the PCG messaging to eastern states and develop new materials.

UP Multi-CISMA HWA Survey Project (MISGP, Administered by Alger CD)

This is a partner project involving several of the UP CISMAs. It involves winter surveys for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid within 20 miles of the Lake Michigan Shoreline. There will also be several training components and outreach opportunities. Much of this project takes place later in the season or during the winter, so there are not many updates at this time.

Life After Phragmites: Wetland Restoration & Landowner Stewardship (MISGP, Administered by UP RC&D)

This project is a very similar continuation to what we've already been doing in MI for Phragmites. Again, most UP CISMAs are partnered on this project for their respective management areas. The goal is to continue implementing the successful Cost Share program. WRISC will be responsible for about 15 acres of cost share phragmites treatment each year of the project as well as various outreach efforts. Site visits were conducted the week of July 8-12th. Due to the high water levels, not much phragmites was found and there will not be much to treat along the shoreline. WRISC is looking at Dickinson County sites and some inland Menominee County sites to make up the 15 acres required for this year.

Life After Phragmites: Wetland Restoration and Landowner Stewardship in Michigan's UP and Northeastern Wisconsin – (Administered by UP RC&D)

Submitted Full Proposal to Sustain Our Great Lakes

WRISC has partnered on this project proposal with UP RC&D, WI DNR, and other area stakeholders. The project is very similar to the other recently approved Phragmites project and if awarded, this project will be matched by that one. Essentially it is seeking to again extend the cost share program longer in MI and also to include WRISC's WI Counties and initiate the cost share process there.

AWARDED! Lose the Loosestrife: Purple Loosestrife Management along the Michigamme River

- Joint project with WePIC, Lake 2 Lake CISMA, WRISC, and respective CDs.
- \$253,465 over 5 years

This project will help fund efforts to remove and manage purple loosestrife infestations along approximately 26 miles of the Michigamme River from the dam in Republic to the Way Dam reservoir.

Other Projects:

Proposals for the next round of MISGP funding have been posted and are due in September.


Misc.

Staffing: WRISC crews have been working very hard this season and accomplishing a lot of work. As we move into August, some crew members, particularly CBCW staff, will be wrapping up their time here while some strike team members will be able to stay on into the late season.


Newsletters/Articles: Late season newsletter will be produced in September-October. A few articles were published in local papers including a very successful Invasive Knotweed Article from which we got MANY landowner contacts and reports of new sites.

Website/Facebook/Instagram: The WRISC website has not received as many updates in the last period. If there are ever any broken links or if anything looks odd or outdated, please don't hesitate to let us know! We are hoping explore changing website providers once our plan with the current one is due. Despite not being as active, the WRISC website had **143 page views** in the last 30 days.

Facebook has received quite regular updates of invasive articles, links, pictures, etc. and has been more consistent. The WRISC Facebook page continues to grow, having gone from **311 likes** (at the last BOD meeting) to **315 likes** at the end of July. Total reach for our Facebook page for the past two months was pretty good, with a few highlighted posts, where page activity **reached a total of 3,672 people!** While the page is generally seeing great reach whenever something is posted, a few of the more engaging posts (those interacted with more) are included here:

**Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition**
Published by Lindsay Peterson · 71 · July 23 at 2:10 PM · 🌐

Hey All!
Check out our recent article about invasive Knotweed and find out how we can help you in combating this aggressive invader!
Do you suspect you have Knotweed? Get in touch with us by calling (906) 774-1550 ext.102 or emailing wildriverscwma@gmail.com!



IRONMOUNTAINDAILYNEWS.COM
Groups combating the spread of knotweed | News, Sports, Jobs - The Daily news

✔ Get More Likes, Comments and Shares
Boost this post for \$49 to reach up to 10,000 people.

149 People Reached 28 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

149 People Reached

18 Likes, Comments & Shares 🌐

14 Likes

5 On Post

9 On Shares

0 Comments

0 On Post

0 On Shares

4 Shares

4 On Post

10 Post Clicks

0 Photo Views

3 Link Clicks 🌐

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK


0 Hide Post

0 Hide


0 Report as Spam

0 Unlike

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**Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition**
Published by Lindsay Peterson · 71 · June 25 · 🌐

Dame's Rocket is certainly up and flowering in the WRISC area - Keep your eyes open for this invasive!

**Wisconsin Public Radio**
June 24 · 🌐

Like Page

One reason dame's rocket has established such a foothold in Wisconsin is because its flowering stalks are aesthetically pleasing to so many gardeners and passersby, according to [VisContext](#).



WISCONTEXT.ORG
Dame's Rocket, An Invasive Confused For Phlox, Is A Common Sight In Wisconsin

143 People Reached 24 Engagements [Boost Unavailable](#)

143 People Reached

12 Likes, Comments & Shares 🌐

5 Likes

5 On Post

0 On Shares

1 Comments

1 On Post

0 On Shares

6 Shares

3 On Post

3 On Shares

12 Post Clicks

0 Photo Views

3 Link Clicks 🌐

9 Other Clicks 🌐

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide Post

0 Hide All Posts

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