

WRISC Project Update

Submitted by WRISC Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson
April 13th, 2022 BOD Meeting
Marinette County



Recent Events

- Landowner Invasive Species Training – February 4th, 2022
- Kingsford HS Presentation – March 8th, 2022
- MI CISMA Meeting – March 14th, 2022
- NMU Summer Job Fair – March 15th, 2022
- WI AIS Train the Trainer Webinar – March 17th, 2022
- Civil Air Patrol presentation – March 21st, 2022
- Home & Garden Show – March 26th, 2022
- Sustainable Forestry Conference – April 6th, 2022
- WI Lakes & Rivers Convention – April 7-8th, 2022
- Several webinars and/or online conferences

Upcoming Events

- Dickinson CD Tree Sale – last week of April
- Invasive Trade Up events – TBD May
- Volunteer Workdays – TBD May/June
- *Other events being planned*

Grants:

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

WE Energies MEF - Pathway Prevention and Assessment

Awarded August 4th, 2020 for full amount of \$91,000 for 2021-2022

This project funds strike team efforts in 2022 but will also implement inland lake monitoring for AIS and provide integrated management. Project will also continue to target private landscapes and offer invasive trade-in events and restoration efforts/education. Lake monitoring will be a primary focus in 2022.

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. COVID-19 disrupted planning for this project, but we are hoping to get this back on track. Project teams regrouped for 2021 and have been able to make progress on field activities, with all groups completing river runs this season. Planning for 2022 will be occurring in the spring once seasonal crews are hired/planned.

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

- Extended thru December 2021

This project has wrapped up with all deliverables met. We are currently compiling close out documentation and final reporting.

GLRI – Boat Wash

[WRISC Boatwash FY20: WRISC Boatwash](#)

Awarded! \$39,000;

Deliverables: 3,000 boater contacts

This grant will be initiated now that the FY19 project has expired.

[USFS GLRI CBCW – AWARDED!](#)

A project agreement has been developed for this project.

USFS-GLRI-CWMA: Enhancing Ecosystems of the MRW through Invasive Species Detection, Education, & Control

Request: \$40,000 Match: \$30,800

WRISC proposes efforts to inventory high-traffic recreational areas, mainly off-road trails & public accesses, & determine current distributions of & control several priority IS, like Buckthorn, Eurasian Watermilfoil, etc, which threaten recreational opportunities. WRISC seeks to empower local communities to engage in IS management by offering trainings to landowners & workdays for students. This project has been progressing slowly and unfortunately there was a delay in submitting a timely modification request. There this project is currently awaiting a decision on an extension/deviation.

USFS Template 7a: Pathway Education: Pathway Publicity - Raising Awareness through Media Outreach

Request: \$23,000

The goal of this outreach campaign will be to raise awareness of pathways and prevention of invasive species in a “call to action” effort. WRISC has started work on this project and will be implementing the billboard campaigns this spring, along with field videos and more.

MISGP Core Funding: Seeking Sustainability through CISMA Balance – Extended thru Dec 2022

- \$70,000; Match: \$36,500; Total Request: \$106,500

WRISC Coordinator has been working with technical contacts on reworking this project and associated funding. This project has successfully been extended and will continue to fund CISMA operation and management associated with Wild Parsnip.

UP Multi-CISMA HWA Survey Project (MISGP, Administered by Alger CD) – Extended thru April 2022

Some of WRISC's subaward was reallocated to other groups in the project that have more acreage to survey than we do in the WRISC area. We'll be focusing the final funds on some wrap up surveys this winter and primarily outreach. We have several properties lined up for survey in the coming month or two.

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

WRISC has partnered on this project proposal with UP RC&D, WI DNR, and other area stakeholders. This project will again focus on phragmites cost share efforts, with additional focus on WI coastal areas as well.

Sustain Our Great Lakes (SOGL) Category 5 Proposal: WDNR Natural Area Buffer Project – AWARDED! Partner Project

WDNR seeks to utilize CISMA partnerships to enhance the State's IS management efforts on state lands, by connecting with adjacent private landowners and mirroring state management on private lands to serve as a buffer. May involve funds for monitoring and some control. Project subaward contract has been received and recently submitted. WRISC will begin work on this project in the off season with data collection and organization of field efforts for 2022.

MISGP UP RC&D – UP-Wide European Frog Bit Early Detection Project – AWARDED!

- Awarded! Approx. \$30,000 subaward for WRISC
- Project began in June 2021

WRISC has focused on conducting several surveys in the Menominee area, focusing attention on WRISC's southern border especially after new occurrences of EFB in Marinette and Oconto counties. Coordinator has been participating in EFB planning meetings in both states. The yearly MI EFB training for UP staff is planned to occur in Marinette County and will be a collaborative training for MI and WI folks.

EPA UPRC&D Partner Proposal – UP Wide Phragmites Project – Awarded!

The sub-award agreement for this project is expected to be received in the next couple of weeks. This project has already been extended through September 2024.

USFS GLRI Education – AWARDED!

Project agreement has been submitted.

USFS CWMA Funding – AWARDED!

Project agreement has been submitted.

MISGP Core Funding 2022 – AWARDED!

Project will be initiated in April.

WE Energies 2022 – Proposal Submitted

SOGL 2022 – Invited for Full Proposal, Due April 18th

WI EDRR Grant – Yellow Floating Heart & Graceful Cattail – Postponed, will reassess if needed next season

Misc.

Staffing: WRISC posted seasonal positions for 2022 at the start of the new year in January. Currently looking to hire at least 2 more positions for strike team. If any field crew excel in the position, they may be considered for longer-term employment in a project manager position.

Newsletters/Articles: WRISC hasn't published much as far as articles in the last period. The WRISC commercial and cleaning videos have been distributed in various ways, including an ad campaign through WLUC TV6. More outreach is planning for the summer season.

Website/Facebook/Instagram: The website will be undergoing further updates this winter, so please be patient and aware of pages that may be changing or under construction at times.

Katherine has been doing an amazing job at keeping WRISC's social media running. Instagram has received several updates throughout the last period and currently has **340 followers**. Facebook received several updates as well and has seen some great feedback and engagement. The WRISC Facebook page has continued to grow, going from **603 likes and 785 followers** (at the last meeting) to **633 likes and 805 followers** at the end of March.

Total reach for our Facebook page for the past two months has been great! Overall, page activity **reached a total of 12,465 people!** The page generally sees great reach whenever something is posted. A list of posts from the last period, with reach and engagement numbers, is included below:

Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach	Engagement
04/07/2022 12:00 PM	 #GarlicMustard is our invasive species of the month. This biennial			227 	24 31 
04/06/2022 5:01 PM	 The 17th Annual Sustainable Forestry Conference was a hit			150 	14 6 
03/27/2022 1:44 PM	 Goats are also great at clearing out invasive species!			61 	1 2 
03/26/2022 10:42 AM	 Manny (the WRISC mannequin) is demonstrating good invasive			143 	11 10 
03/22/2022 3:16 PM	 WRISC will be set up at the Marinette Home & Garden Show on			102 	0 6 
03/17/2022 4:02 PM	 Not all four-leaf clovers are lucky! European Water Clover is an			115 	2 14 
03/16/2022 8:09 PM				97 	2 0 
03/14/2022 10:55 AM	 WRISC will be attending the Northern Michigan University Career			124 	2 4 
03/12/2022 4:00 PM	 Check out this NRCS guide for identifying common invasive species			1.2K 	97 125 
03/11/2022 2:17 PM	 Spring is a perfect time to survey for many woody invasive species, such			236 	53 27 
03/03/2022 7:00 PM	 Invasive Species are EXPENSIVE! According to the USDA's National			990 	289 136 
03/01/2022 7:00 PM	 Climate change is exacerbating the problem of invasive species. From			74 	1 2 
02/28/2022 10:57 AM	 National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) is here!			104 	4 9 
02/25/2022 9:30 AM	 Invasive species can be spread even in the winter! Staying on			96 	2 4 