

WRISC Project Update

Submitted by WRISC Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson
BOD Meeting 12-5-2018
Florence, WI



Since the Last Meeting

- EPA Tribal Water Workshop – October 2-4, 2018
- Marinette County Environmental Days – October 4, 2018
- Radio Interview – October 12, 2018
- FCAL Annual Meeting – October 13, 2018
- Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference – October 15-18, 2018
- Cowboy Lake KHS Workday – October 19, 2018
- Dickinson Co Road Commission Training – October 25, 2018
- Science Fest, Stephenson Public Library – November 3, 2018
- Blue Ox Trail Riders Meeting – November 5, 2018
- AIS Fall Partnership Meeting – November 13-14, 2018
- Menominee AOC Island Restoration Project meeting – November 14, 2018
- MISC Core Team Meeting – November 26, 2018

Upcoming Events

- AIS Water Trail Paddle Grant meeting – December 6, 2018
- MISC Annual Meeting – December 11-12, 2018

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

Grant was intended to be wrapped up in June 2018 with all deliverables met and all funds expended, but due to a bookkeeping error it turns out only about half of the project funds were spent. Due to this, WRISC, DCD, and the WI DNR agreed to extend the grant for another year and to conduct five (5) more property surveys and complete reports for these additional properties and distribute management guide to landowners.

The additional surveys have been completed the final reports for the additional landowners have been developed, but are not finalized yet. We are in the process of finishing a draft of the control guide which we can present at the February meeting.

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

These funds pay for Coordinator ½ time and supply Project Manager and summer crew wages. This grant involves the re-write of the Strategic Management Plan. The project also highlights monitoring in riverine settings as well as expanded cooperation with industrial and civic partners.

Goals are on track as we are in Year 2 of 3 for this project. Not as many wages have been pulled from this grant recently as more has been drawn from MEF to use up those funds before the end of the grant. For treatments, many if not all of the Michigan sites fall under this grant for acreage with the exception of a few specific ones. Treatment acreage was up this year compared to year one. Reporting was completed in October.

WE Energies MEF Strike Team II (2017-2018)

Extension being requested

This grant funds Coordinator hours ½ time and funds summer crew wages. This grant focuses on invasive species management across the WRISC area as well as incorporating more professional partners in these management efforts. Grant efforts are on track for this project. An extension request is being made soon to draw funds out at least one extra month in order to spend down funds. This will help maintain project managers through the winter/spring months until new funding is received.

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

AWARDED Full Funding as of August 23rd, 2018!!!

This proposal 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).

Funds are expected to be available early 2019.

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. Work will begin this fall/winter on targeted outreach/education materials. Deliverables are on track for this project. Acreage was lagging behind a bit at the beginning of the season but many acres were contributed this year and put this project back on track.

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

Extension to be requested

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.

An extension request for this project is going to be made shortly mainly to accommodate the vDASH work, which is not quite on track due to assembly and purchasing delays. Diver equipment has been ordered and procured, and divers lined up for an education session in the spring to obtain certification. The DASH unit is in storage for the season but will be worked on through the winter to get it operational for the 2019 season.

GLRI – Boat Wash

Several of the boatwash units have returned from Escanaba where they were repaired. Those repaired and winterized have been moved to the WI DNR Fisheries cold storage building in Florence, although we are still waiting on the storage agreement.

End of season numbers are looking good for activities this year, with deliverables for all active grants on pace.

FY16 (17-PA...)

This grant funded staff throughout the summer, as well as Florence county staff through sub-award. There are still funds remaining and those may be used for much needed professional maintenance on all units, including the replacement of a pump unit on one of the older washers. We may also buy fitted covers/tarps for the units to help protect them while not in use.

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. This grant also funded a sub-award to Florence County to continue to target priority landings in that county and allowed WRISC more consistent coverage through the remaining counties.

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

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

Deliverables: 3,000 User Contacts

Lumberjack RC&D – WRISC, WHIP, TIP Pathways Educational Guide

Sub-award to partner with neighboring CISMAs to develop an educational guide for various user groups highlighting invasive species pathways. Grant has been extended to December 2018.

WRISC board edits/suggestions were passed along to the rest of the work group. The guide was then edited and passed on to the graphic designer for final tweaks and graphical edits. The guide will be printed soon.

WRISC Invasive Species Pathways Education, Play Clean Go

Radio interview was conducted in October and we heard feedback from several folks that heard it air! We will be developing a variety of other outreach products this winter and will start booking space to ensure we have more billboards up next summer.

Other Projects:

- In June, WRISC submitted two joint pre-proposals for the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) – One seeks to continue the Phragmites Cost Share Program in Menominee County; the other is aimed at early detection survey efforts for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid within 20 miles of the Lake Michigan Shoreline (target area for the state). Invitations for full proposals were sent out for both grants as of July 31, 2018!
 - Full proposals have now been submitted for these projects.
 - We should be hearing back on these grants around the New Year.
- WRISC had offered support/partnered on another statewide proposal with Sea Grant and MSUE on a project titled *Michigan Invasive Species Paddling Detection, Reporting and Public Awareness Program*. So targeting paddlers and Great Lake water trails. This was awarded and partner collaboration will begin on this soon.
- There has also been discussion with the WI DNR to get WRISC a small (less than \$5000) award to begin Phragmites work in WRISC's WI Counties, including surveying/mapping and education/outreach.
 - We've since submitted a proposal for this effort and to help fund Kyle throughout the winter.
- WRISC has offered support to Florence's CBCW and AEPP grants.

Misc.

Staffing: Kyle Hafeman was officially hired on as a project manager, as approved by the Dickinson CD board at their October board meeting. He will be part- to full-time throughout the winter as funding allows. A. Nelson, Dickinson CD, will provide an update on staff benefit changes.

Newsletters/Articles: End of season newsletter is scheduled to be compiled in the off season. If any Partners have projects or success stories from this year they would like to highlight, send a short blurb to WRISC Coordinator or Project Manager! WRISC was featured in an article by the Eagle Herald for Menominee/Marinette area.

Website/Facebook/Instagram: The WRISC website has continued to receive regular updates for events and meetings, and project opportunities for landowners. If there are ever any broken links or if anything looks odd or outdated, please don't hesitate to let us know!

The WRISC website had **266 page views** in the last 60 days. Many of these visitors were new to page as well!

Facebook has received semi-regular updates of invasive articles, links, pictures, etc, and has been more consistent. The WRISC Facebook page continues to grow, having gone from 280 likes (at the last BOD meeting) to **283 likes** at the end of November. Total reach for our Facebook page for the past two months was really good, with a few highlighted posts, where page activity **reached a total of 1,514** people and our **average reach was about 36**. The page sees great reach whenever something is posted, a few of the more engaging posts are included here



Report All Feral Swine Sightings!
(Also known as feral/wild pigs, hogs, boar)



For more information or to report a sighting
Call
USDA-WIS: 1-866-487-3297 or WI DNR: 608-266-2151
Report Online
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/hunt/feralpig.html>



787 People Reached!
149 Engagements!
7 Shares!

Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...
Published by Lindsay Peterson [?]
Page Liked · November 6 ·

Unfortunate news coming out of Florence County, but something to be very aware of...

From Florence County's Facebook Page:

"The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has been receiving phone calls in Florence County regarding wild pigs (boars with tusks have been seen) in the vicinity of 1st and 2nd Crossings West of the town of Florence.... See More

Tag Photo Add Location Edit

757 People Reached 149 Engagements Boost Post

4 7 Shares

Like Comment Share

Write a comment...



SWAMP MONSTER!!!
(EUROPEAN SWAMP THISTLE)



SEA LAMPREY
VAMPIRE OF THE GREAT LAKES



PLAGUE OF PARSNIP

BEWARE Spooky Invasive Species! HAPPY HALLOWEEN! From WRISC

Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition ...
Published by Lindsay Peterson [?]
Page Liked · October 31 ·

BEWARE spooky Invasive Species this Halloween!
"If there's something strange in your neighborhood Who you gonna call?
If there's something weird
And it don't look good... See More

Tag Photo Add Location Edit

252 People Reached 45 Engagements Boost Post

10 4 Shares

Like Comment Share

252 People Reached!
45 Engagements!
4 Shares!