

## WRISC Project Update

Submitted by WRISC Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson  
August 3rd, 2022 BOD Meeting  
Forest County



### **Recent Events**

- Garlic Mustard Workday – June 10<sup>th</sup>
- Landowner Invasive Species Training – June 18<sup>th</sup>
- Norway Wastewater Treatment Plant AIS Removal Workday – June 21<sup>st</sup>
- Menominee CD Summer Camp – June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- European Frog-bit Training – June 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – July 4<sup>th</sup>
- Great Lakes Landing Blitz – July 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>
- Exotic Pet Surrender Event – July 16<sup>th</sup>
- Kentuck Days – July 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Waters of Fortune – July 30<sup>th</sup>
- West Shore Fishing Museum Event – July 31<sup>st</sup>
- Several webinars and/or online conferences

### **Upcoming Events**

- Wisconsin Land + Water – North Central Area Association Summer Tour and Meeting– August 12, 2022
- Dickinson CD Open House – August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Upper Midwest Invasives Species Conference (UMISC) – October 25-27<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- *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 4<sup>th</sup>, 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. Trade-in events were successful earlier in the season. The Strike Team has been implementing management and staff is gearing up for lake monitoring in August.

### **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. Project team leads touched base in the spring and all groups were able to hire staff this year and have runs planned for late July – early August.

### **GLRI – Boat Wash**

[WRISC Boatwash FY20: WRISC Boatwash](#)

Awarded! \$39,000;

Deliverables: 3,000 boater contacts

WRISC staff have been regularly stationed at landings throughout the region conducting watercraft inspection and offering education.

[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.

The modification request for this project was approved and WRISC has worked to get the activities and deliverables back on track for this project.

### **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 summer, 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.

The wild parsnip portion of this project has been limited by the difficulty in obtaining a permit from MDOT. Funds allocated for treatment that are not used will be redistributed toward Wild Parsnip awareness and education efforts.

### **MISGP Core Funding 2022 – AWARDED!**

Project will be initiated in April.

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

WRISC completed all surveys this winter. This project is closed out, we are awaiting final reimbursement.

### **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 – 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 was received and submitted in fall 2021. WRISC has begun work on this project by organizing field work for fall 2022, including data collection and soliciting landowner permissions from adjacent landowners.

### **MISGP UP RC&D – UP-Wide European Frog Bit Early Detection Project – Partner Project**

- 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 was in June in Marinette County and was a great collaborative training for MI and WI folks. WRISC staff have spent a couple days surveying for EFB so far this season.

### **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.

### **WE Energies 2022 – AWARDED! \$107,000 For 2023-2025**

This project was just awarded on August 2, 2022

### **SOGL 2022 – Full Proposal Submitted, Was Not Awarded**

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

**Misc.**

**Staffing:** WRISC hired three staff for seasonal positions this summer – Megan Preston, Bob Martonen, and Tyler Norris. In July, T.Norris was offered a full time year round project manager position with WRISC, which he accepted.

**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. Various outreach efforts are planned throughout the 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 **359 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 **633 likes and 805 followers** (at the last meeting) to **647 likes and 865 followers** at the end of March.

Total reach for our online pages (Facebook, Instagram, & website) for the past two months has been great! Overall, page activity **reached a total of 9,994 people!** The Facebook page in particular 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
07/27/2022 2:57 PM	 WRISC had a great time pulling EFB yesterday!	📄	🌐	139	18 11
07/19/2022 2:47 PM	 You wouldn't believe the amount of Wild Parsnip the WRISC Strike Team	📄	🌐	359	120 90
07/18/2022 12:25 PM	 It's Wild Parsnip season!!! Check out our poster to learn how to identify it in	📄	🌐	1.7K	103 80
07/14/2022 11:02 AM	 What a great way to honor and celebrate the Women in Conservation	🔗	🌐	39	2 2
07/11/2022 5:21 PM	 The WRISC Strike Team has been hard at work treating Wild Parsnip	📄	🌐	406	44 14
07/04/2022 12:21 PM	 Happy 4th of July from all of us at WRISC ❤️🇺🇸🇺🇸 #CleanDrainDry	📄	🌐	152	18 4
07/03/2022 9:00 PM	 There's no better place to celebrate the 4th of July than the Upper	📄	🌐	203	6 6
07/02/2022 7:00 PM	 We hope everyone is enjoying the holiday weekend and making	📄	🌐	119	2 5
07/01/2022 11:57 AM	 Happy kickoff to #LandingBlitz week! WRISC watercraft inspectors will be	📹	🌐	189	8 11
06/30/2022 3:32 PM	 This week, WRISC had the opportunity to attend a multi-state	📄	🌐	161	14 8
06/24/2022 11:51 AM	 WRISC has been busy with events this summer! Over the last week, we	📄	🌐	218	11 11
06/16/2022 12:34 PM	 WRISC has a lot of great events coming up in the next couple of	📄	🌐	195	6 11
06/15/2022 1:55 PM	 Be on the Lookout for Garlic Mustard Aphids!	🔗	🌐	66	5 1
06/14/2022 4:23 PM	 Successful day pulling Garlic Mustard! Can anyone identify the	📄	🌐	162	20 8
06/12/2022 9:00 AM	 #PlayCleanGoWeek has come to an end, but that doesn't mean your	📹	🌐	71	5 3