

Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area Meeting

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

December 19, 2007

Meeting Notes

Donut discussion: continued *Community Reporting & Monitoring System* discussion - List of NCWMA needs to share at the January regional data sharing/management meeting

1. Alert System – inform when new species are sighted (ability to tailor to species & range)
 - Lag time between sighting and mapping
2. Interactive Mapping/Reporting – online system to decrease data management time

Business meeting:

Present: Stefania Strzalkowska (Bayfield Cnty AIS), Darienne McNamara (USFWS), Ryan Magana (WDNR), Carmen Chapin (NPS), Matt Bushman (USFS), Miles Falck (GLIFWC), Katie Morey (student), Mark Morey (Town of Washburn), Kerry Tetzner (Town of Washburn), Nan Olson (Bayfield Cnty Lakes Forum) and Dara Olson (GLIFWC).

- *WI AIS Grants*
 - Feb 1st deadline – generally awarded by April
 - Request funding to hire someone to develop & coordinate an online reporting system with aquatic invasive species as test species
 - Potential to use funding as match for the PTI grant
 - Stefania will draft a proposal for the NCWMA
- *WI Coastal Management Grant*
 - Difficult to find someone for part time work – cost sharing opportunities with a NCWMA member to create a full time position? Or the WI AIS grant?
 - Ensure coordinator's office space is located in a facility with other natural resource professionals
 - Michele Wheeler works part time for the Bad River Watershed Association coordinating volunteers and working on some invasive species projects - Darienne will follow-up with Michele to see if she would be interested
 - Budget includes: \$2,000 for treatment & equipment, \$200 for field supplies & \$200 for office supplies – discuss at the next donut discussion
- *Fiscal Administration*
 - Bayfield County will not administer payroll for NCWMA grants – need to go through another party (SIGO, Bad River Watershed, etc.) – may cause problems with future grants.
 - Friends of the NGLVC does some grant administration – Darienne will follow-up to discuss of administering payroll
- *Calendar/ Guide for mowing activities to prevent spreading invasive species*
 - Suggestion to develop a guide for municipalities with the optimal time to mow ditches to prevent the spread of variety of invasive species
- *Town of Washburn*
 - Received an informational notice this past summer regarding wild parsnip - health concerns & measures to prevent its spread. Mark will bring the letter to the next meeting.
 - Conducted work on ditches this past summer – excavated topsoil to prevent the potential of spreading leafy spurge and seeded areas after completion.
 - Town employee has spotted areas of leafy spurge not located on Ecology Club maps. Crew member will carry a map & mark the areas on the map and spray while at the location. GLIFWC offered to fill the Town's sprayer with herbicide.

- *Invasive Species Habitat Risk Analysis*
 - GLIFWC is working on a species database (shade tolerance, wetness value, etc.) to link with land cover & soil data to query potential range and overlay known distribution data
 - Used as a tool to prioritize control work
 - Species database has multiple variables that could be used in other applications
 - Suggestions: prioritize natural areas and link to high use recreational areas (increase potential to spread)
- *Reed Canary Grass in Wisconsin*
 - Natural Areas Journal – reed canary grass control report with discouraging results
- *Oriental Bittersweet Identification*
 - USGS developed an Oriental vs. American bittersweet identification flyer: <http://www.glsc.usgs.gov/files/factsheets/2007-2%20Identifying%20Bittersweet.pdf>
 - Limited distribution in Wisconsin, but very difficult to control once established
 - Concerns that the abundant berries are being used for holiday decorations and the potential pathway for spread if seeds are viable
- *Pulling Together Initiative grant*
 - NCWMA received a request for a full proposal – due by January 11th (nice work!)
 - Grant would fund 2009 invasive species work days, 1/2 time coordinator position and travel to a state/regional meeting to share NCWMA activities/accomplishments & increase coordination on a larger scale
 - Darienne & Carmen are getting together to work on the full proposal tomorrow
- *Garlic Mustard Infestation at Copper Falls State Park*
 - Control day as one of the WI Coastal Management Program grant work days (swap with buckthorn work day in May)?
 - Need to follow-up with the North County Trail Association and Colleen. North County Trail Association is expanding from trail maintenance to include an invasive species component also.
- *Misc.*
 - Tool shed – floor has been constructed, but due to our first snow storm the shed was unable to be constructed (postponed until spring).
 - Bayfield County Work Release Program – potential to use labor for work days (contact for program: Kay Cedarburg)
 - NRF Besadny grant (website & brochure) – extension until April 1st. Dorothy Semple is no longer working for USFS, but is still willing to work on the logo on a volunteer basis. She will work on it after the holidays.
 - Need to update the 2008 NCWMA key contacts list. Dara will send with meeting minutes for each member to update information.
 - Katie Morey joined the meeting to discuss the regional impacts of invasive species for a report she is working on.

Upcoming Events:

Jan 24-25: Integrating Invasive Species Data Meeting

(<http://www.ipaw.org/events/WorkshopRegistrationForm.doc>)

Jan 29: Next NCWMA Mtg – business mtg at 10am. & donut discussion at 9am: develop the 2008 field season work plan and look into purchasing equipment for the community tool shed from the WI Coastal Management grant.

*** Please send Carmen any hours to be used as match for WI Coastal Management grant (non-state or fed hours) for the past month (Nov.21-Dec.19) if you were unable to attend the meeting ***