

**NORTHWOODS WEEDS INITIATIVE  
STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING  
DECEMBER 1, 2000**

Attendees: Tom Cogger, Karen Danielsen, Becky Dinsmore, Miles Falck, Quita Sheehan (by phone) and Wisconsin Conservation Corps representatives.

Discussion began with a presentation by Ben Niebolski, Melody Ross, Bethany Pupp, and Laura Kreinbring from the Wisconsin Conservation Corps (WCC). The WCC has been working on a demonstration restoration project, in partnership with the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute, at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. The project entails eradicating reed canary grass and planting sedge species on eighteen 10x10 ft. plots on lands surrounding the Visitor Center. Next summer they plan to monitor their first year results.

Strategic Planning

- I. Education
  - A. Website
    - 1. Long-term - GLIFWC will continue to update.
    - 2. Short-term (2001) - GLIFWC is partnering with UW Madison to upgrade the GIS system. Miles will incorporate beetle release sites into GIS information.
  - B. Slide Library
    - 1. Long-term - GLIFWC will continue to update slide library
    - 2. Short-term - Slide library and slide show will be added website.
  - C. Newspaper Articles
    - 1. Long-term - NWI will continue to write and submit newspapers articles when opportunities arise.
    - 2. Short-term - Have articles already written and available for submission. Quita will take the lead on this.
  - D. Kits for Kids
    - 1. Long-term - NWI will eventually offer kits for kids to local area schools.
    - 2. Short-term - Miles will compile information on existing kits for kids. He will also develop or facilitate the development of beetle rearing kits for extracurricular kid groups such as 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. All NWI members will try to develop contacts with adult leaders of these groups and increase the leaders' interest in teaching kids about the problem of invasive weeds.
  - E. Demonstration Plots
    - 1. Long-term - NWI will support or develop future demonstration plots and include information on the website.
    - 2. Short-term - NWI will support the WCC demonstration plots at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. Pam Troxell will contact Mary Jo Obberbein at SOEI to learn more about the project to determine if and

how NWI can help.

- F. Conference
  - 1. Short-term - Plants out of Place Conference in March (Quita is taking lead on developing Northwoods session and Miles is taking the lead on developing a poster for NWI).
  
- II. Technical Practices
  - A. Technical Standards for Invasive Plants
    - 1. Long-term - Technical Standards will include (list not exhaustive):
      - a. Guidelines for gravel pits;
      - b. Guidelines for cleaning heavy equipment;
      - c. Eradication techniques for invasive weeds;
      - d. Guidelines for inventory and monitoring;
      - e. Guidelines for commercial nurseries;
      - f. Guidelines for preparing biological evaluations with respect to invasive weeds;
      - g. Recommended BMPs' regarding invasive weeds for public land managers.
    - 2. Short-term - NWI will meet on February 1, 2000 to further define the above list and set priorities. In addition, Tom and Miles will develop a draft of initial technical standards that can be discussed at the February meeting. They will provide this draft by the middle of January to allow NWI members review time before the meeting. These initial technical standards will be presented at the Plants out of Place Conference. During May 2000, we will invite other agencies that are not currently members of NWI (e.g., DOT) to review and provide input.
  - B. Literature Review
    - 1. Long-term - NWI will continue to compile information on the control, eradication, and inventory and monitoring of invasive weeds. This information will be made available on the website.
    - 2. Short-term - Miles will add a literature review section to the website.
  
- III. Administrative Needs
  - A. Encourage more partners into NWI
    - 1. Long-term - NWI will continue to contact potential new partners.
    - 2. Short-term - NWI will sponsor a meeting in April in which potential new partners will be encouraged to attend. NWI will provide a presentation and facilitate the ensuing discussion. New partners will be encouraged to attend the May meeting to discuss technical standards
  - B. Funding
    - 1. Long-term - Miles will maintain a list of potential funding resources on the website.
    - 2. Short-term - Becky will identify smaller grants for more field guides,

- smaller field project, etc.
- C. Restoration
1. Long-term - NWI will provide information on native plants and restoration techniques for private and public landowners.
  2. Short-term - NWI will support and collaborate with the restoration group lead by SOEI.

### **Future Meetings**

1. February 1, 2001 - Strategic planning for developing technical standards.
2. March 2-3, 2001 - Plant out of Place Conference.
3. April 2001 - Open invitation for new partners. NWI presentation and discussion.
4. May 2001 - NWI discussion of technical standards with new partners.