

Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) Meeting
National Park Service Office, Ashland
Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Present: Colleen Matula (WDNR), Matt Bushman (Cheq.Nicolet NF), Heather Palmquist (Iron County), Stefania Strzalkowska (Bayfield County), Carmen Chapin (NPS), Tom Fratt (Ashland Co LWCD), Dara Olson (GLIFWC), Lacey Hill (GLIFWC) and Darienne McNamara (NCWMA Coordinator).

• **ROW workshops completed**

- had 102 participants across 5 workshops - great turnout!
- many requests to make this an annual refresher, a few even wanted a follow-up field ID session this year (keep it very short, localized info only) - we will send letter indicating that we could offer this annually if participants will pay a small fee to cover costs
- once DNR guidebooks are ready, participants will receive follow-up packet with:
 - DNR pocket guide to invasives
 - map of invasives in their jurisdiction from GLIFWC site
 - directions for how to get data from GLIFWC site
 - sample invasive plant inventory form(s)
 - information about plant growth regulators
 - NCWMA brochure

- **DNR pocket guides** - available for pickup in early June, Carmen and Colleen both offered to pickup from Madison, Darienne will notify when the guidebooks are ready

• **Upcoming Events**

- May 14: planting on Cat Island and South Twin Island, contact Julie VanStappen (NPS) for more info at julie_van_stappen@nps.gov
- May 18 (rain date: 19th): Prentice Park 9am-3:30pm
- May 22: pulling garlic mustard at Copper Falls from 9am-3pm
- May 23: invasive species session for Birding & Nature Festival from 9am-11:45am, NCWMA booth at Festival all weekend
- June 1-3: loosestrife beetle collecting, contact Miles Falck at miles@glifwc.org
- June 5: Northern Native Plant Sale from 9a-1p at SOEI (Northland College campus)

• **Garlic Mustard - new site found in Hurley/Ironwood**

- Mark Jaunzems and Ian Scackleford sent out a map and photos on May 10 of a new GM infestation along Montreal River on the border of WI/MI near Hurley/Ironwood; estimate it at 25 acres; plants are 2nd year and very dense - likely there are other patches nearby
- NCWMA would like to address it *this year*, ASAP
- Colleen will contact landowners in WI to get permission to treat
- Heather will contact biology teacher in Hurley who may have her students help pull

- Darienne will contact Master Gardener's group in Ironwood area; will also contact Ian S. to see if he can contact landowner(s) on MI side, help recruit volunteers, and provide some funding for control
- **Library boxes for Invasive Species Awareness Month**
 - Colleen waiting on Czarapata books, she will distribute to NCWMA members who are working with a local library
 - Carmen has 3-panel posters (pdf) for libraries for ISAM, she can email if anyone wants to print them and include with their library box; several group members offered to print from their plotters if someone needs it
- **September/October event in Bayfield**
 - local group wants to control buckthorn along Big Ravine Trail in Bayfield, would like assistance from NCWMA to setup an event for fall
 - after group discussion on how to prioritize such requests (given that we receive more and more each year), NCWMA members decided to support this effort because it's a new group of people, new site, and they've agreed to provide volunteers and herbicide
- **NCWMA vision and values**
 - initial discussion on goals, priorities, vision and values for NCWMA
 - prompted by:
 - new and diverse funding opportunities
 - growing number of requests for assistance (private landowners, groups, and municipalities all requesting assistance)
 - broad range of services and resources needed by community
 - Carmen sent out first draft of criteria for selecting projects, including:
 1. Efforts *contain aspects of education* and awareness of the invasive species problem.
 2. Efforts support activity *on community or publicly accessible sites*.
 3. Efforts will be *supported in the future by stakeholder* activity and are not beholden to CWMA for additional support.
 4. Efforts have *high visibility or demonstration value*.
 5. Efforts focus on *early detection species*.
 6. Efforts *share cost with in-kind or monetary support*.
 - Darienne will develop ranking sheet for requests based on these criteria
 - Darienne will also develop a checklist for planning/hosting a work day; this will be given to partners so there is clear understanding of work load, roles and responsibilities
 - lots of discussion on how to deal with private landowners who want help - financial assistance is almost always requested, but we don't have a way to provide this; group discussed several options, including securing grant funds to:
 - offer mini-grants to towns, community groups, other groups who will agree to do a certain amount of work (volunteer hours)

- cost-share assistance for landowners; Door County has done this with Phragmites, Darienne will call them to see how this program was operated (costs, time commitment, overhead, effectiveness, etc)
 - no cost option: NCWMA members offered to help landowners with technical assistance
 - Colleen mentioned the WFLGP program, which offers financial assistance to forest landowners who meet prog criteria
- **Round Robin:**
 - **Heather** - native tree/shrub sale is done, still has a few bundles left over (maple, oak, pines, etc) so contact her if you'd like some; busy with field season
 - **Carmen** - busy with field season, travelling a lot
 - **Matt** - prescribed burning; Mark Jaunzems is back for field season this week; Partnership Agreement with NCWMA finalized so we can share funds more easily now, and can begin spending from GLRI \$50K
 - **Dara** - GLIFWC site updated, use maps.glifwc.org now rather than old site, working on transitioning all data from old site onto new site; helping with native plant sale
 - **Tom** - waiting to hear on GLRI, which would mean an Inv Sp Coordinator for Ashland Co; finding it hard to get funding for projects in the portion of the Co outside the Great Lakes basin
 - **Lacey** - AIS for GLIFWC, will be surveying lakes this summer, currently working with others in the area to develop a list of which lakes will be surveyed
 - **Stefania** - teacher's workshop for local teachers coming up this Fri; lots of outreach events planned; mentioned HR669, proposed federal legislation that would outlaw the import of exotic pets
 - **Colleen** - state forest program got an increase in funding this year, this can be used for control on state forests; challenged local high school students to write an invasive species song for ISAM, got some great country and rap songs about invasives which will be posted on IPAW website; working with 30 students in Mellen this Wed to pull garlic mustard along Bad River

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 8
 National Park Service - Great Lakes Network Office
 Ashland, WI
 8am - Business meeting