

Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) Meeting

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Meeting Notes

Donut Discussion: Invasive species data collection methods, software and equipment.

Business meeting:

Darienne McNamara (USFWS), Carmen Chapin (NPS, GL EPMT), Miles Falck (GLIFWC), Matt Bushman (USFS - Washburn), Michele Wheeler (NCWMA Coordinator & Bad River Watershed Association), Stefania Strzalkowska (Bayfield County AIS), Mike Fitzgibbon (BIA - Ashland) and Dara Olson (GLIFWC).

- *People Powered Projects – National CWMA conference*
 - Dara gave a brief overview of the conference – notes will be sent out
- *Volunteer Incentives*
 - Money available through the WI CMP grant for volunteer give-aways
 - Tote bags – \$5 with minimum order of 172 (too much to sell enough), gloves – \$5-7/pair, bumper stickers – potential ideas for future volunteer incentives
 - Magnets – Dara will follow up with Heart Graphics
 - Native seed packets – Northern Native Plants Project restructuring, but still a potential to get seed through them (mainly grasses)
- *WI DNR AIS Grant (EDRR website grant)*
 - Did not receive the grant
 - Miles has been working with www.glifwc-maps.org upgrade and doing what the grant hired person who have been doing – GLIFWC is going ahead and working on an EDRR component to the website.
 - If further funding is needed for the EDRR project then we will re-evaluate
- *NWF - PTI grant*
 - Should find out in May
- *Summer Work Day Updates*
 - Michele Wheeler is half-time NCWMA field days coordinator (WCMP grant)
 - May 9-10th : Garlic Mustard Days – 20 volunteers signed up
 - Outreach targeted letters & phone calls to various groups and LFC put out a postcard to a Northland college class.
 - Press release will go out to Ashland Daily Press and local Mellen paper
 - Colleen & Ben Bergey spoke with landowners and they are willing to use fire, but not herbicide
 - Prevention of spread – stations with tarp and wire brushes on site – education in the start of the event emphasizing impacts and the potential to spread
 - Copper Falls SP is the meeting site – free parking, shuttle or walk in from trail (½ mile walk – access from the park side)
 - Mike will bring up the event to Bad River NR staff
 - June 20-21: Knotweed Knock-Out in Bayfield
 - July event – ATV user target audience –
 - Valhalla is spraying spotted knapweed - not a good location for event
 - Need a site & activity

- Good for volunteers to be active
- Mellen has an active ATV community - lead ATV member works for the Chamber of Commerce (organized group with a contact – forestry large amount of income - good start to get a event involved)
 - Michele will call and invite to the May event and get feedback on what/if they would be interested in doing.
- Watercraft inspectors for ATV-ers
- Volunteers will remember spotted knapweed if they have to pull it
- WI BMPs have an active statewide ATV group involved in the process, but the list is all Madison area folks
- Palm pilots or data sheets/post card – helpful if you see and send it in
- Need to focus on this event (location & task)
- August ATV rally in Mellen
- *MN Invasive Species Conference* (<http://www.minnesotaswcs.org/Invasives.htm>)
 - October 26-29th in Duluth, MN
 - Carmen will send in an abstract for a NCWMA presentation
- *Local Native Seed sources*
 - BIA was working on seeding a log landing - scattered annual rye
 - Could utilize a list of sources if the NCWMA could come up with some guidelines
 - Work on drafting a list for the website
 - Potential future project to come up with sources to collect native seeds and then write a grant to collect native seeds to distribute for projects – available for invasive species control sites, revegetation, road/recreation departments, livestock, fire divisions, etc.
- *Gravel pits*
 - Spray gravel pits (spotted knapweed) – gravel pit at Bad River – lack of concern
 - Regulation on gravel pits (noxious weed law), but no one to enforce the law
 - Spotted knapweed is widespread already
 - FS sprays FS gravel pits annually
 - Inventory of gravel pits – weed free gravel certification – needs to be a need for it
- *Bad River Watershed Newsletter*
 - Article in the upcoming newsletter - education on nursery stock and the potential to spread invasives
 - MIPN.org - Native alternatives to Landscape Plants brochure
 - Indiana's Meyer Corporation tags plants and stopped selling invasives - huge corporation and TNC working together
- *Volunteer Liability Insurance*
 - NRCS – unable to work under their insurance
 - IPAW – still looking into it
- *Galerucella Control*
 - Miles goes out the week before collection days to check on sites and in August takes photo documentation of the biocontrol progress – everyone is welcome to join

Upcoming Events:

May 9th & 10th: Garlic Mustard control days in the Bad River watershed

May 20th: NCWMA mtg – business mtg at 10 am. & donut discussion at 9 am: working with volunteer groups & development of a volunteer agreement

June 2nd – 5th: *Galernella* beetle collection days

June 20th & 21st: Knotweed Knock Out in Bayfield

July 10th: “The Buckthorn Battle: Why This Plant Means War and Why You Should Fight”,
Madeline Island Wilderness Society Meeting

July 12th: “Get Into The Thick of It!”- outdoor buckthorn control session, Madeline Island
Wilderness Preserve

August 22nd: CWMA field day hosted at Whittlesey Creek NWR

Sept 12 – 13: Maple Hill leafy spurge control days

TBD: Spotted knapweed educational day

*** Please email Carmen (Carmen_Chapin@nps.gov) hours to be used as match for WI
Coastal Management grant (non-state or fed hours) for the past month if you were unable to
attend the meeting ***