

## Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) Meeting

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, Ashland

Tuesday, September 1, 2009 9:00 am

***Present:** Matt Bushman (USFS), Stefania Strzalkowska (Bayfield Co), Heather Palmquist (Iron Co), Ruth Oppedahl (UW Ext), Steve Spickerman (USFS), Carmen Chapin (NPS), Martine McClaran (USFS), Colleen Matula (DNR), Darienne McNamara (NCWMA Coordinator), Larry Ganslucker (resident, City of Bayfield)*

- **Landowner Question:** a landowner from the City of Bayfield inquired about a large buckthorn on his neighbor's property, which extended into his yard; the group offered suggestions for dealing with the issue, Darienne will send him information which he can share with his neighbor
- **NR40 - Takes effect TODAY, September 1, 2009!** Classifies invasive species into categories of Prohibited, Restricted, and others. Restricts the possession, transfer, transportation, and introduction of invasive species. Pertains to aquatic and terrestrial plants, fish, invertebrates, and vertebrates. Actual text of the legislation has been sent out with the meeting minutes. The NCWMA will obtain a press release from the DNR, adjust it to be locally relevant, and spread the word in our area.
- **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)**
  - Refers to a big pot of funding (\$400M +/-) coming from the EPA for projects in the Great Lakes basin; invasive species are one of the five focus areas for funding
  - Darienne has been attending meetings with local nonprofits, counties, and tribes interested in working together to submit group proposal; she has drafted 4 invasive species project proposals to include in a group proposal from Chequamegon Bay area
  - Draft NCWMA proposals will be sent out to the group; please review and provide comments, suggestions, other ideas
- **Grant Oversight Committee (GOC)** - the agreement with Bayfield County requires a GOC to "oversee activities and ensure grant criteria are being met" for the current NFWF grant. The committee will consist of Colleen Matula (Chair), Heather Palmquist (pending approval, Co-chair), and Carmen Chapin. The committee will meet after each NCWMA meeting.
- **Northland College Invasive Species Class** - Carmen is teaching an invasive species class at NC this semester. Students will learn to map invasives, research treatment methods, create a site management plan, and conduct treatment. Students will each write a report on an invasive species, including management recommendations, which will serve as a resource for the NCWMA and others. Carmen has contacted NCWMA members to provide lectures and materials for the course.
- **GPS Units** - the NCWMA has two GPS units available to volunteers. Ruth will keep them at the Visitor Center. We can use these at our work days. Darienne will post the forms for these

on the NCWMA website. She will also purchase extra batteries and small dry bags for the GPS units.

- **Volunteer training** - Stefania plans to attend a training through UW-Superior called “Working With and Inspiring Volunteers” on Sept 16. The group was in favor sending the Coordinator if there is funding available.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - **September 11-12 Madeline Island** This event is co-hosted with the Boy Scouts, and we currently have 40-45 people signed up (includes scouts and adults), expecting more. There will be a presentation Friday evening and a work day from 9am-3pm on Saturday. Work will take place at Big Bay State Park and the Town Park. Free ferry passes are available to volunteers who RSVP by Thursday, Sept 3. Camping is free for volunteers as well. Contact Darienne or Colleen for more info. **\*\*We need a few more volunteers to work with scouts at this event, need adults to help spray.\*\***
  - **September 18-19 Washburn Leafy Spurge Spraying** Darienne will contact Wendy Stein to see if landowners are interested/available for this event. USFS can donate herbicide, sprayers, and help.
  - **September 19 Northland College Buckthorn Event** A landowner next to the college will donate herbicide, provided we cut some buckthorn on her property. Darienne will recruit students and organize, Carmen will help supervise at the event.
  - **September 26 National Public Lands Day** At the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, 9am-1pm. Free leather work gloves and pizza for volunteers. Some buckthorn control, but also helping with the new native seed orchard at the Visitor Center.
- **Round Robin:**
  - Stefania had a booth at the Bayfield Co Fair, not great attendance this year, she may not host a booth there next year. Met with landowners near Barnes who want to treat loosestrife, looking for recommendations for landowners, group suggested cutting off flower heads and bagging them (not composting!), then digging up roots - using herbicide over water would require a DNR permit, which takes too long at this point in the season.
  - Heather - busy with loosestrife control for past month. Sponsored media blitz about invasives on TV, radio, and newspapers; received lots of feedback about radio ads, good affordable way to reach big audience.
  - Matt - ATV wash station at Valhalla is out of commission for a while, but was well-received while it was working, and it caught leafy spurge and knapweed.
  - Steve - been doing lake surveys, hasn't found any new aquatic invasives, but found some rare plants.
  - Carmen - EPMT crew wrapping up soon, preparing for NC class, working on GLRI proposals for NPS. MIPN update: MIPN has received funding to develop an online informal database of “trail and error” treatment methods; also received funding to update

CWMA Cookbook, Carmen suggested creating a follow-up guide for CWMA's that are beyond the early stages (such as us).

- Martine - been treating knapweed for two months, working on her own now that her crew members are back in school, wondering if it's not too early to start treating leafy spurge?
- Colleen - working with a contractor to do invasive treatment in Brule River State Forest. Doing a trial with Milestone (3%) on Japanese knotweed, she'll let us know when they have some results to share, preliminary observations look good. Invasive BMP's for Forestry, Urban Forestry, and Recreation are now available online at DNR website.

**Next Meeting Date:**

October 6, 2009

Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

8am - Donut Discussion: GLRI projects

9am - Business Meeting