

Northwoods Weed Initiative  
Meeting Minutes  
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center  
08-26-2003

Attendees: Miles Falck, John Markus, Steven Spickerman, Wendy Stein, Pam Troxell

-Wendy distributed "Wanted" posters for Leafy spurge. She will see if Dara Olson has an additional supply as John, Pam and Miles would like more to distribute and post.

-Discussed noxious weed law information that Barb had researched. It turns out the DNR is not exempt from the law entirely. The DNR is exempt from the law only in areas they "maintain as habitat for wild birds".

-Pam shared an updated copy of the poster that her interns created. She will share the poster via email to the group and ask for our comments/edits. We discussed the size and decided on approximately 18"x20"... about the size Pam uses for the wolf posters.

Pam will check to see if there will be any costs incurred in printing. If possible, she may be able to have it printed to bring to the next meeting.

-Pam will ask Martine to get the lat/long information for the spurge found in Douglas County and email that information to Miles to include in his map.

-Pam recently reminded Clayton Russell that he agreed to create two lesson plans this Fall in his Environmental Education class at Northland College.

Wendy gave Pam the Aquatic Guide received from Mike Kroenke (UW Extension Basin Educator) to provide to Clayton as background information. Mike would like to attend one of our meetings. He has connections with other groups interested in creating a guide on terrestrial invasives.

Steven mentioned that State & Private Forestry in St. Paul, MN is establishing some type of guide and training on invasives for their Forest Inventory employees.

-Grants – not aware of any at this time.

-Herbicide. Miles has a crew of 3 people who will spray rights-of-way beginning mid-September until frost. He will make contact with road crews regarding this activity. Using the map of spurge locations, the crew will start spraying in the most concentrated areas and work out from there.

Miles suggested we do a news article prior to the herbicide spraying. The article could bring readers up to date with what our group has done thus far as well as notify them of the upcoming herbicide application.

Wendy will contact Kevin O'Brien of the Ashland Daily Press to see if he would be available on September 11<sup>th</sup> to meet with us at "spurge central" on Maple Hill. It would be a great time to showcase what we accomplished this year. Some of the items that come to mind are: produced a brochure, Northland College students conducted Leafy spurge surveys in Douglas County and developed a poster, Ecology Club involvement/monitoring, beetle release, grant applications, letter to Town of Washburn residents, etc.

Discussed spraying herbicide on private land. The herbicide is expensive (approx. \$250/gallon?). Maybe we could work something out with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to get some herbicide and either ask them to assist us or possibly use their equipment. It would be interesting to do a few strips near the beetle release sites. We would probably want to do another monitoring plot or two prior to the herbicide. Wendy offered to check with TNC to see if this is feasible.

According to Miles, the herbicide (Plateau) is not restricted use. Miles will send a copy of the Materials Safety Data Sheet to Wendy for possible discussion with the landowners.

-Miles distributed boxes of Leafy spurge and Plants Out of Place brochures to everyone.

-Next meeting: Tuesday, October 7, 2003, 9:00 a.m. at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center.

Wendy Stein  
Notetaker