

**KISMA
Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area**

**Master Participating Agreement
and
Supplemental Project Agreement #1
2015 Performance Monitoring Report**

29 January 2016

Two agreements between the US Forest Service (Ottawa National Forest)
and the Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District.

| Master Agreement | | SPA #1 | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| Agreement Number: | 12-PA-11090700-010 | Agreement Number: | 12-PA-11090700-014 |
| Cooperator Name: | Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District | Cooperator Name: | Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District |
| Performance Start Date: | 01/01/2014 | Performance Start Date: | 04/24/2012 |
| Performance End Date: | 12/31/2014 | Performance End Date: | 12/31/2014 |
| Report Source: | Cooperator | Report Source: | Cooperator |
| Report Due Date: | 03/31/2015 | Report Due Date: | 03/31/2015 |
| Agreement Start Date: | 3/22/2012 | Agreement Start Date: | 4/24/2012 |
| Expiration Date: | 1/31/2017 | Expiration Date: | 1/31/2017 |

This report includes summary information pertaining to the two USFS agreements. Most work falls under Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) #1, while the Master Agreement offers general guidelines.

Master Agreement

Commitments from the Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District (HKCD) are listed on pages 2-3 of the Master Agreement. HKCD served as fiscal manager for KISMA, cooperated with KISMA members, exchanged resources, encouraged contribution from other participants, helped manage invasive species, allowed federal agencies to help manage invasive species, mapped many new invasive plant sites, used integrated and safe control methods, and prepared this annual report.

Supplemental Project Agreement #1

Commitments from the HKCD are listed in Modification #1 of SPA #1.

1. Retain coordinator for the KISMA in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Duties will include communicating with KISMA members, planning KISMA meetings, conducting public education on invasive species in Houghton, Keweenaw, and Baraga Counties, writing news releases about KISMA and invasive species, recruiting and supervising KISMA volunteers, and providing botanical expertise on the management of invasive plants. KISMA Coordinator will follow the KISMA annual operating plans to be developed cooperatively with all KISMA members and agreed upon by the HKCD.

The HKCD provided three different KISMA Coordinators in 2015. From January to March the Coordinator was Meral Jackson. From March to July the Coordinator was Marcy Erickson. From July to December the Coordinator was Sigrid Resh.

The HKCD organized and hosted a KISMA meeting on May 18, 2015, at the Marsin Nature Retreat. Meeting notes are posted on the KISMA website.

Educational Activities

- Developed an informational pamphlet and sign with boot cleaning station at City of Houghton's Nara Nature Park with Michigan Tech Risk Communications student Krysten Cooper. Boot cleaning station/poster installed spring 2015.
- KISMA display board with additional information:
 - 6th Annual Northern Great Lakes Invasive Species Conference (Oct. 22, 2015 in Marquette, MI)
 - Michigan Invasive Species Coalition All Partners Meeting (Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2016 in Gaylord, MI)
- Houghton Middle School 7th grade class Weed and Seed on 9/22/15. Using purchased soil, mulch, and native seeds, 83 students broken in 4 groups spread soil, seed, and mulch along Portage Trail on Houghton city property just north of Michigan Tech's campus. Two large bags of tansy and spotted knapweed were removed from 0.1 acres, and bare areas were covered in topsoil, native wildflower and grass seed, and mulch.
- Presentation at Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative (LSSI) meeting to regional teachers on what KISMA does and how KISMA could support school projects

Publicity

- Wild Parsnip workshop (July 7, 2015) and weed pull (July 8) advertised with local newspaper and distributed flyers and emails

Invasive species control

| Event | Date | Acres |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|
| Ian treated knotweed on the way to a KISMA meeting. Elm River Tower Road. | 5/18/2015 | 0.1 |
| Wild Parsnip weed pull on Boston Rd. (Marcy Erickson and Janet Marr) | 7/8/15 | 1 |
| Spotted knapweed pull with Sarah Geborkoff's science class (Marcy Erickson) | | 0.5 |
| Bete Grise weed pulling effort: Knapweed and cat's ear removal concurrent with the national beach cleanup event on Sept 20, 2015. (National beach cleanup day is Sept. 19, 1 day earlier). Three sections of beach and road within the Bete Grise Preserve were treated or approximated 10 acres. Six full garbage bags of spotted knapweed were removed. | 9/20/2015 | 10 |
| Michigan Tech Wetland's club continued weed and seed work along Portage trail just north of Tech's campus (filled 12 large bags of Tansy) | 10/17 and 10/24/15 | 0.1 |
| Japanese barberry mapping and pull at Michigan Tech Pilgrim Trails | 11/3/15 | 1 |
| | TOTAL | 12.7 |



Figure 1 Bete Grise cat's ear and spotted knapweed removal



Figure 2 Portage trail weed and seed project with Houghton Middle Schoolers



Figure 3. MorePortage trail weed and seed volunteers.

2. Act as fiscal agent for GLRI grant funds as detailed in the attached financial plan.

The HKCD accepted and dispersed the USFS/GLRI funds following the financial plan, as detailed in the 2015 invoices (2/20/15, 6/1/15, 7/13/15, 9/24/15, 11/9/15).

3. Provide invoices to the FS relative to agreement expenditures.

Between January and December 2015 five invoices have been processed, totaling \$7,186.34 paid to the HKCD. At the end of 2015 \$35,748.86 remains available in the agreement for work in 2016.

4. Ensure GLRI funds are used only to achieve GLRI grant deliverables and other costs as detailed in the financial plan.

All expenses followed the financial plan.

5. Implement the attached financial plan.

All expenses followed the financial plan.

6. Be responsible for documenting, caring for, and securing any supplies purchased with funds from this agreement.

Expenses under materials and supplies in 2015 were under \$550 and include: office supplies such as printer ink (\$28.60), office paper and bags for invasive species disposal (\$57.37), and soil, mulch, and native seed for Houghton Middle School 7th grade weed and seed project (\$446.83).

7. Work with KISMA Coordinator to provide interim reports by October 1 of 2013 and 2014, and a final report by October 1, 2015, and additional reports, as requested by the U.S. Forest Service.

Modifications 1 and 2 extended work under this agreement. The 2013 report was submitted 2/28/2014. The 2014 report was submitted 1/27/2015. This is the report for 2015. The 2016 report will be the final report.

8. Direct KISMA Coordinator to treat 30 acres of invasive plant infestations: 10 acres in 2013, 10 acres in 2014, and 10 acres in 2015. Acres will count if the KISMA Coordinator or KISMA volunteers under supervision of the KISMA Coordinator participated in the work.

[Modification #1]

Modification #2 provided additional funding for 2014, 2015, and 2016, but did not include a new Scope of Work. The original SPA also called for 10 acres to be treated in 2012. As detailed in the 2012 report, 18.2 acres were treated in 2012. As detailed in the 9/24/2013 meeting notes, 22.5 acres were treated in 2013. 12.9 acres were treated in 2014. 12.7 acres were treated in 2015.

This gives a total of 66.3 acres so far treated under SPA #1.

Additional invasive plant control work was done by the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council (UPRC&D), under their agreement with the USDA Forest Service (#15-PA-11090700-007).

9. Document 400 hours of volunteer time working on invasive species projects, to be planned with KISMA partners as part of annual operating plans.

| Event | Date | Volunteers | Duration (hours) | Total Volunteer Hours |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Gina Nicholas (HKCD Chair) volunteer time. She recruited Marcy and Sigrid and filled-in between KISMA coordinators. | All year | 1 | 42.5 | 42.5 |
| HKCD Board Meeting with KISMA updates and discussion | Monthly | 5 | 0.25 | 15 |
| KISMA Steering Committee and Partners Meeting | 5/18/15 | 21 | 2 | 42 |
| Wild Parsnip weed pull on Boston Rd. (Marcy Erickson and Janet Marr) | 7/8/15 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Spotted knapweed pull with Sarah Geborkoff's science class (Marcy Erickson) | | 80 | 2 | 160 |
| Bete Grise weed pulling effort | 9/20/2015 | 16 | 2.5 | 40 |
| Houghton Middle School 7th grade class weed and seed | 9/22/15 | 83 | 0.67 | 55 |
| Michigan Tech Wetland's club continued weed and seed work along Portage trail just north of Tech's campus (filled 12 large bags of Tansy) | 10/17 and 10/24/15 | 13 | 2 | 26 |
| Japanese barberry mapping and pull at Michigan Tech Pilgrim Trails | 11/3/15 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| TOTAL | | | | 385.5 |

10. For any printing funded by this agreement, work with the U.S. Forest Service to ensure compliance with U.S. Forest Service Handbook 1509.11, 72.11- General Requirements, Section 12 (printing).

The HKCD has not funded any formal printing under this agreement.