

## **Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area (KISMA) Partnership Planning**

### **Meeting- Minutes**

**Please refer to the pdf of the Meeting PowerPoint for details**

**Houghton, MTU, SFRES Building Room 144, 12/18/17**

#### **Partner Introductions. Those present included:**

- KISMA Leadership Team: Sigrid Resh, KISMA Coordinator & Scientist; Jill Fisher, Botanist & Educator; and Evan McDonald, from the Keweenaw Land Trust (one of KISMA's Fiduciary Managers)
- Darcy Rutkowski and Christy Burkhardt (on phone) the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development (UP RC&D) Council, Marquette
- Lynette Potvin (on phone) Ecologist, Isle Royale National Park
- Bonnie Hay (on phone) Director, Gratiot Lake Conservancy
- Chris Cantway (on phone) The Nature Conservancy
- Jen Ricker and Mike Zukowski (on phone) Iron Baraga Conservation District & WePIC Coordinator
- Rod Chimner, Wetland Ecologist, MTU
- Nancy and Bill Leonard, Michigan Nature Association
- Jason Mittlestat, DNR Forester
- Brad Carlson, DNR, Baraga Unit
- Allison George, District Conservationist, Baraga Field Office USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Sue Trull, Botanist, Ottawa National Forest
- Quincy Higgins Arney, Master Gardener at MTU
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community: Karen Anderson, Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist; Deanna Hadden, Habitat Specialist; Kathy Smith Invasive Weed Species Coordinator; Rachel McDonald, Forester; Karena Schmidt, Ecologist, Jon Asher, Mike Rodriguez, and Jaimee Loonsfoot Plant Technicians
- Douglas M. Rich, DNR-Parks and Recreation Division, Baraga DNR CSC
- Wayne Burnett, DNR Parks and Rec., Ft. Wilkins

#### **BACKGROUND: Mission and Status**

- Sigrid provided back ground information on KISMA, a state funded (MI-DNR, MI-DEQ, MDARD) CISMA (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area) which serves Baraga, Houghton, and Keweenaw Counties
- KISMA needs a management plan to continue MISGP funding and be eligible for Tier 2 funding UP (grants up to \$150,000). We need 6-8 other partners together with Leadership team to draft plan in next 5 months, have to finish by May 2018 to go for next MISGP grant.
- Current funding sources;

- MISGP--received March 2017 provides 3 years funding
- USFS & Joint Chiefs CWMA GLRI- 2 years funding primarily for Tech Trails IS work and some greater KISMA area support

**KISMA 5-year Management Plan Purpose – this has to be done for the KISMA partnership to go forward**

- to allow the CISMA to function effectively and efficiently
- to provide the Steering committee with the blue print for KISMA work
- to provide the cooperative glue to assist partners in meaningful IS control
- to qualify for future funding
- By 2018, CISMAs must document other sources of revenue: local, federal, private partners.

**KISMA’s Original Five Objectives in the MISGP proposal, these have deliverables, and may be included in the 5 year plan:**

1. Build capacity
2. Management of priority species
3. Prevention and early detection
4. Community outreach and rapid response
5. Education

Partners were surveyed 11/2017 and asked how is KISMA achieving these, response is KISMA needs work on all 5 objectives, thus the need for all partners to weigh in on the development of a plan.

**ORGANIZATION:**

**KISMA Personnel Roles- Sigrid reviewed personnel roles.**

**KISMA Partner Roles**

**Planning Committee** = Currently recruiting motivated individuals, 5-6 months of work, meet/connect biweekly. Work at Management Plan Development, and have/give sub-committee assignments

**Steering Committee** = Will reform after Plan is accepted, MOU for guidance in overseeing KISMA program. Help with grants, annual work plans, guide direction, bring opportunities to the group.

**Sub-Committee Contributor** = Partners can use expertise to contribute to specific portions of the plan.

**Timeline Review**

- By April 18th draft plan out to partners to review

- Check out deadline for USFS MOUs, KISMA needs partner feedback by May 2<sup>nd</sup> to have plan ready by May 31<sup>st</sup> to go for next round of MISGP funding. • **Check out deadline for USFS MOUs**
- Discussed current and potential partners- brainstorm other possibilities: construction and landscaping companies, neighborhood associations, lake and stream associations, sewage authorities. The Leadership Team is soliciting advice and comments and will send invitations soon so new members can be a part of the planning.

**Draft Plan Core Elements:** Evan covered the elements that the 5 year Plan must include. He solicited partners to join the Planning Committee partners and work in these areas:

1. **Capacity/Sustainability:** describe roles of partners, personnel; available resources, and draft MOU.
2. **Program Priorities:** Mission-driving and operational: identify priority species, locations, strategies, outreach, early detection, rapid reduction, restoration.
3. **Funding and Resources:** balancing costs between priority tasks, identify funding sources, leveraging funds
4. **Adaptive Management:** Continuous improvement of program and plan by dealing with changes, emerging issues/opportunities

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Partners** choose level of commitment (Planning Committee, Sub-Committee Contributor, or Partner) and involvement in Letter of Commitment, ALL PARTNERS SIGN FIRST ROLE, and may sign on to additional roles. Send to KISMA (Jill, Sigrid) within next two weeks (12/31/17)
- **Partners** supply additional names/partners for KISMA to invite within next two weeks (12/31/17)
- **Partners** check on limitations and deadlines for funding cut off dates, and communicate these to KISMA
- **KISMA Leadership will** create a roster of sub-groups to work by email
- **KISMA** send Doodle Poll for next Planning Committee Meeting