

Western Peninsula Invasives Coalition (WePIC)

(Western Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area)

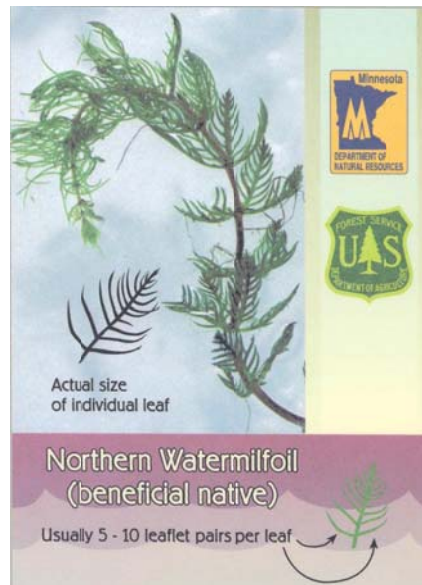
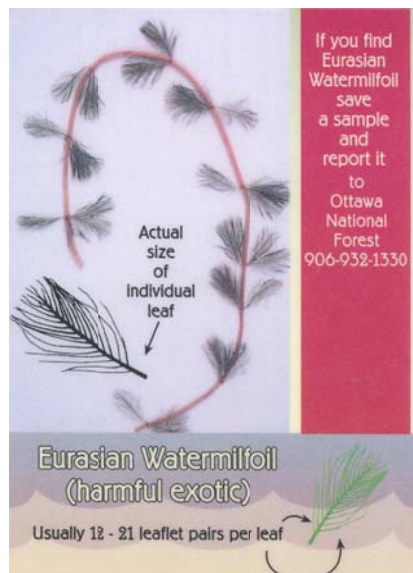
Accomplishments: 2005 to 2012

2005

- May 9, 2005: CWMA training in Ashland, WI
- October 13, 2005: First organizational meeting

2006

- 09/12/2006: Participating Agreement # 06-PA-11090700-024 signed, officially creating the Western Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area. Original members were US Forest Service (Ottawa National Forest), Chicagon Lake Association, Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association, Duck Lake Nuisance Aquatics, Friends Of Ice Lake, Gogebic Conservation District, Gogebic County Forestry And Parks Commission, Golden Lake Association, Hagerman Lake Property Owners Association, Iron County Conservation District, Lake Gogebic Improvement Association, Langford Lake Riparian Owners Association, Long Lake Property Owners Association, and the Runkle Lake Association. More members joined the following years.
- 119 signs Exotic Species Alert signs created (\$1,493.45)
- 6,000 Eurasian watermilfoil cards printed for \$1,000
- Donated \$2,166.67 to Duck, Ice, and Runkle lakes to help pay for their EW milfoil treatments.



2007

- Printed 7,500 Clean Boats Clean Waters double-sided tri-fold brochures for \$500. We modeled it after Dickinson County brochure.

2008

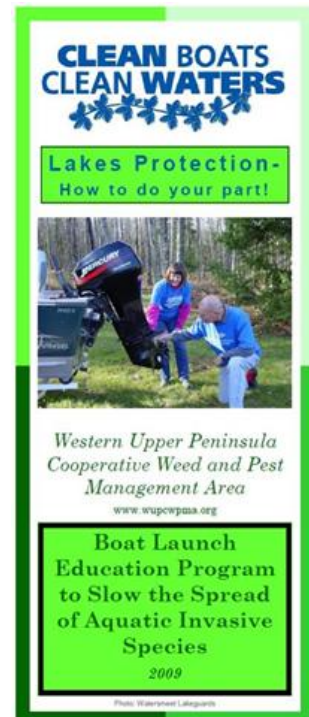
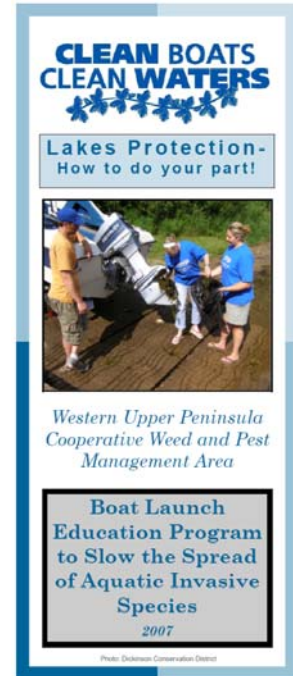
- \$3000 for EW milfoil treatments in Duck and Chicagon Lakes.
- \$200 for Long Lake Association for Japanese barberry control .



Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) infestation near Long Lake.

2009

- 10,000 CBCW brochures printed for \$500
- Working with the Chicagoun Lake Association, the CWMA received \$2,250 Boat US Foundation Grant for two “Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!” billboards near Ironwood and Iron River.



2010

The US Forest Service received Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funds for Aquatic Invasive Species education & prevention. With the help of the CWMA, funds were used for the following:

- Purchase of four trailered pressure washers to clean boats and help prevent the lake-to-lake spread of aquatic invasive species.
- Staffing the four pressure washers (\$17,300 for ISCCW, \$9,680 for Lake Gogebic, \$19,680 for Iron County Conservation District).
- Design and production of enhanced AIS signs at boat launches
- Two Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker billboards along US 2.
- AIS lake surveys in 37 lakes by [Land and Pond Solution](#) and [Wintergreen Farm](#).

The USFS was also able to contribute \$9000 through the CWMA for Long Lake & Thousand Island Lake for Japanese barberry control. At our spring meeting members agreed to change our name to the Western Peninsula Invasives Coalition (WePIC).



2011

Continued GLRI funding allowed the Forest Service to again fund Clean Boats Clean Waters boater education and boat washing by ISCCW, Iron County Conservation District, and Bergland Township. GLRI also funded [AIS lake surveys in 22 lakes](#) and highway billboards again.

The five-year participating agreement for the CWMA ended. Final members were the US Forest Service (Ottawa National Forest), Chicagon Lake Association, Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association, Duck Lake Nuisance Aquatics, Friends Of Ice Lake, Gogebic Conservation District, Gogebic County Forestry And Parks Commission, Golden Lake Association, Hagerman Lake Property Owners Association, Iron County Conservation District, Lake Gogebic Improvement Association, Langford Lake Riparian Owners Association, Long Lake Property Owners Association, Runkle Lake Association, Invasive Species Control Coalition Of Watersmeet (ISCCW), Iron County Coalition Of Lake Associations, Swan Lake Owners Association, Perch Lake Owners Association, Sunset Lake Association, Beatons Lake Riparian Association, Maplewood Timberland, Bergland Township, and the Lake Mary Association.

Newly-formed Resource Advisory Committees for Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties invited project proposals, and awarded over \$100,000 for invasive species projects to CWMA partners:

Project No.	Proponent	Project Title/Proponent	Amount Approved
GOG-11-002	Friends of Sylvania	Invasive Plants in Sylvania	\$20,000.00
GOG-11-008	Gogebic Conservation District	Gogebic County Invasive Plant Management Program	\$15,000.00
GOG-11-010	Langford Lake, James J. Donlan	Langford Lake Invasives	\$20,000.00
GOG-11-014	Maplewood Timberland & Long Lake Properties Association	Barberry Eradication Project	\$5,000.00
GOG-11-025	ISCCW, Arnold Domanus	Portable Boat Washer,	\$10,000
GOG-11-028	Duck Lake Nuisance Aquatics Committee	Eurasian Water Milfoil Control in Duck Lake and the Ontonagon Watershed	\$6,000
GOG-11-029	Invasives Species Control Coalition of Watersmeet (ISCCW)	Assessment and Management of Eurasian Water Milfoil on Crooked Lake and Duck Lake	\$7,000
GOG-11-034	Friends of Sylvania	Invasive Plants in Sylvania (Part II)	\$8,000
GOG-11-036	Gogebic Conservation District	Gogebic County Garlic Mustard Work	\$2,000
ONT-11-009	Ottawa National Forest	Ontonagon County Invasive Plant Control	\$10,054
ONT-11-010	Doug Welker and Ottawa National Forest	Aquatic Invasive Species Signage	\$4,200
		<i>Total</i>	\$107,254.00



2012

GLRI funding allowed the Forest Service to again fund Clean Boats Clean Waters boater education and boat washing by ISCCW, Iron County Conservation District, and Bergland Township. This year the Forest Service was also able to fund four AIS control projects:

- \$5,262.50 for Eurasian watermilfoil herbicide control in Chicagon Lake.
- \$5,000 for Eurasian watermilfoil weevils in Iron Lake
- \$5,262.50 for Eurasian watermilfoil herbicide control in Bass Lake (Gogebic County).
- \$2,975 for Eurasian watermilfoil weevils in Buck Lake.

In the fall of 2012 the US Forest Service built a [self-service boat washing station at Hagerman Lake](#). The station was funded by GLRI, designed by Chequamegon Bay Engineering, and built by Opcon General Contractor. This project began with design work in 2010.



GLRI also funded AIS lake surveys in 32 lakes by [Wintergreen Farm](#) and [William Artwich](#). In 2012 GLRI again funded highway billboards, this year featuring zebra mussels, but they were part of a Statewide educational campaign.

In 2012, for the first time, the Ottawa National Forest received GLRI funding to develop and enhance Cooperative Weed Management Areas. \$3,400 each was made available to the Gogebic Conservation District, Iron County Conservation District, and Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council (for Ontonagon County). In exchange each partner agreed to treat ten acres, do public education, write news releases, and map new invasive plant sites.

The Gogebic & Ontonagon Resource Advisory Committees funded seven new invasive species projects:

Project No.	Project Title/Proponent	Amount Approved
GOG-12-038	Langford Lake Eurasian Watermilfoil, ISCCW and LLMA	\$10,000
GOG-12-041	Invasive Plants in Sylvania (Phase III), Friends of Sylvania Wilderness	\$14,000
GOG-12-042	Assessment/Management of EWM on Lake Gogebic, Lake Gogebic Association	\$8,000
GOG-12-045	Cisco Chain Invasive Aquatic Plant Monitoring, CCROA	\$8,000
GOG-12-046	Long Lake Barberry Project, Ron Byers	\$5,000
ONT-12-016	Assessment/Management of EWM on Lake Gogebic, Lake Gogebic Association	\$17,975
ONT-12-020	Japanese Knotweed/Giant Knotweed Treatments, Ottawa National Forest	\$5,414
Total		\$68,389.00



Highway billboard.



Gogebic Conservation District treating glossy buckthorn at Sunday Lake.