

Western Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area Summer 2010 meeting notes and year-end results.

Summer meeting, Ottawa National Forest Visitors Center, 6/21/10

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1. Shoreland Habitat Restoration

MaryJo Gingras is the County Conservationist for the [Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department](#). Her slide show is posted along with these notes on the CWMA website. She also handed out the pamphlet [Owning Waterfront Property: A Checklist](#).

The presentation emphasized the benefits of keeping or restoring native plants in shoreland habitats. Natural shoreland (riparian buffers) filters sediments, increases infiltration, reduces erosion/runoff, takes up nutrients, provides essential wildlife habitat, offers food & shelter, keeps out invasives, and provides privacy. Lawns provide little ecological value. Native plants can be purchased from your local Conservation District spring plant sale, and from some local nurseries (check Minocqua, Mercer, and Rhinelander). [The Northwoods Native Plant Initiative holds a sale of native plants at Northland College in Ashland each June. Some local garden clubs and master gardeners also hold annual sales, selling natives from their gardens. Small quantities of seed for personal use may be collected without permit on the Ottawa NF.]

Fertilizing lakeshore lawns can cause excessive aquatic plant growth and algal blooms. Consider limiting fertilizer to one application in the fall, and do not use fertilizers with phosphorus (the second number in standard fertilizer formulations). As of April 1, 2010, the sale of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus was [banned in Wisconsin](#). Michigan is considering a [similar ban](#).

We also recommend the book [Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality](#) by Henderson, Dindorf, and Rozumalski.

There was discussion about lakeshore development rules in Michigan and Wisconsin.

2. Review of member lakes and known AIS infestations

In 2010, the [DNRE](#) issued seven permits of aquatic nuisance control within the CWMA (Table 1).

Table 1. DNRE permits for aquatic nuisance control in our CWMA in 2010.

Lake	County	Responsible party	Permit No.	Treatment Date	Target	Acres treated	Herbicide	Applicator
Duck	Gogebic	Duck Lake Nuisance Aquatics	10-98-0203-0	6/18/2010	Eurasian watermilfoil	9.5	2,4-D	Aquatic Biologists
Clearwater	Gogebic	Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association	10-98-0954-0	None	Eurasian watermilfoil	0	2,4-D	None
Runkle	Iron	Runkle Lake Association	10-98-1373-0	5/27/2010	Eurasian watermilfoil	6 to 9?	2,4-D	Cason & Associates
Emily	Iron	lakeshore landowner	10-98-1286-0		Northern water-milfoil		2,4-D?	
Prickett	Houghton	Upper Peninsula Power Co.	10-98-1263-0	None	Eurasian watermilfoil	0	2,4-D	None
Pomeroy	Gogebic	Ottawa National Forest	10-98-1882-0	6/10/2010	Eurasian watermilfoil	17	2,4-D	Marine Biochemists
Langford	Gogebic	Langford Lake EWM Association	10-98-1815-0	6/10/2010	Eurasian watermilfoil	40.6	2,4-D and triclopyr	Marine Biochemists

CWMA lakes with weevils stocked by [EnviroScience](#) include Bass Lake in Gogebic County (2008), and Iron Lake (2008 & 2010), Ice Lake (2008), Buck Lake (2008 & 2010), and Chicagon Lake (2009) in Iron County. In 2010, EnviroScience stocked weevils on Buck Lake and Iron Lake, monitored weevils on Chicagon Lake, and did a study on Prickett Lake.

Reports from member lakes and Review of known AIS infestations

Bass Lake (250 acres) – Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) discovered in 2005, 9000 weevils released into the lake by EnviroScience in 2008, infestation is still very large, approximately ½ of lake covered and milfoil continues to grow aggressively. No lake association. According to EnviroScience, it's possible that the number of weevils released was insufficient to achieve control. Members were concerned that the EWM may spread downstream along Bonifas Creek and may have reach the Ontonagon River. The town has closed the Bass Lake boat landing, but some people continue to launch from the sandy beach. Trailered boat usage is definitely reduced. ISCCW Lake Guards and Town of Watersmeet are working on a cooperative agreement to continue to address the invasion. [Update: On 8/19/2020 and 11/16/2010 the ISCCW hosted two public meetings on Bass Lake, trying to arrange for a resumption of EW milfoil control.]

Beatons Lake – Beatons Lake was one of the lakes surveyed by Bill Artwich, as part of an AIS survey contract with ISCCW.

Buck Lake – 9000 more EWM weevils were released by EnviroScience on Buck Lake in 2010.

Chicagon Lake – Weevils were first put in Chicagon Lake in 2009. EnviroScience 2010 report indicated moderate milfoil plant damage after one year. They also have a hybrid milfoil plant in the lake which is not unusual, EnviroScience reports. They will return next summer to monitor weevil progress again as well as inspect the entire lake again for any additional milfoil locations. The Iron County Conservation District boat

washer is stationed there regularly. Zebra mussels continue to be a problem. Plans for a new boat wash at Pentoga Park boat launch are on hold.

Cisco Chain of Lakes – Clearwater Lake received a treatment permit , but current status of EWM population is unknown. Lindsley Lake still has a population of curly-leaf pondweed. Big Lake has a small population of EWM, but this has been treated (2009) with funding from Wisconsin DNR (this sort of treatment arrangement with WDNR was also implemented at Lac Vieux Desert). The Northland College Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute and the Cisco Chain of Lakes have entered into a long-term agreement for development of a lake management plan and help with lake monitoring.

Crooked Lake – A few EWM plants have been found during snorkel surveys in the past year. Lake association is considering additional herbicide treatment. They want the ISCCW surveyor to have Ian's survey map for reference. USFS will plan to survey the north bay, where the boat landing is.

[Update: Forest Service & Lake Guards snorkel-pulled 22 plants from four locations in the north bay.]

Duck Lake – Update from Joe LoMastro: "Duck Lake had a permit for 10 acres, we treated 9.5 of those acres. We used Aquatic Biologists from Fond du Lac, WI. Three of us met them at the boat landing at 6 AM and showed them the exact locations that were marked with buoys. We were impressed on the way they surveyed each area to be treated. They had a different way of applying the 2,4-D than we saw in the past. We stayed with them till the job was complete. About 6 1/2 hrs. This was done the second week of June, weather conditions were very good. Because the way and amount of buoys that were placed in each area they said that we saved \$2 to \$3 thousand dollars of extra labor. Each area was also GPSed. 1427 lbs of 2-4-D were put down @ \$3.57 per lb. And that includes \$350.00 travel time. Bill Artwich has done a complete lake survey, and for the 2011 milfoil season we will be treating 2.45 acres. Only two areas that were treated we didn't get 100% kill, more like 85%, the rest of our 2011 program will be locations that were not treated in the past. We used three divers, not always at the same time. We now have a special modified pontoon boat that the divers use to dive from (name of the boat is called the "MILFOILER"). The divers go to areas that are small in size, two-five plants, and get them before they get out of control. Those plants are also GPS, they have been revisited and no sign of coming back. We have sent away for the 2011 permit in OCT, in hope to have it back in March. This applicator was a little pricier than the others we have used in the past, but the results were great. We will have him back for the 2011 season."

Golden Lake – Recently posted a large AIS sign (from Nicolet). Lake association is looking for someone to give a presentation on AIS.

Hagerman Lake – Zebra mussels were found at one site here in 2009. Monitoring efforts (i.e., a submerged brick) have not recorded any additional ZM, nor have there been any other ZM reports from lake residents or users. A permanent boat wash station is planned for construction at the USFS boat landing on Hagerman Lake. [Update: the station will likely not be constructed until 2012, due to funding; design is scheduled for completion in 2011.]

Ice Lake – Has had known population of rusty crayfish since 1990. Weevils were introduced to control EWM in 2008.

Invasive Species Coalition of Watersmeet (ISCCW, Lake Guards) – Has produced fish ruler stickers with AIS messages for people to put on their tackle boxes. Planning to take a year off from producing placements with AIS messages.

Iron County Conservation District – Has been involved in lots of education activities this year. Boat washer has been well received by public. If lakes association want the boat washer to visit their lake, please contact Gail Dapra.

Iron Lake - EnviroScience stocked another 10,000 weevils in 2010. They seem to be doing a great amount of destruction to the milfoil.

Lac Vieux Desert – A boat washer has been used there several times. There is a big musky tournament that will include LVD as a site in about a month. The boat washer will be stationed at LVD during the entire tournament weekend. No update on the population of strange-looking EWM in the lake.

Lake Emily – Most people leaving the lake have EWM on their trailer. Curly-leaf pondweed may also be present. Angie will send a sample of the suspected plant to USFS for confirmation. Some stands of milfoil in the lake are reaching nuisance levels. It was suggested that the EWM be genetically tested to determine if it is a hybrid. One or two landowners plan to chemically treat patches of nuisance northern water-milfoil near their homes.

Lake Gogebic – This lake has 40 miles of shorelines and 5 public access sites. The Lake Gogebic Improvement Association has been using a boat washer from the USFS to clean boats entering and leaving the lake. Spiny waterflea is still the main problem in the lake.

Lake Mary – No known AIS present. Recently placed new AIS sign at boat launch and have received good comments about it. Lake association has been charging each homeowner \$30/year to build a 'lake preservation' fund to be used for AIS rapid response, if necessary. Also, lake association has been involved in the Cooperative Lake Monitoring program and this has been a positive and interesting experience.

Langford Lake – A lot of EWM remains in the lake (~40 acres). from 2007 to 2009 there were early spring treatments of EWM (April/early May). For these treatments, NuFarm donated 22 tons of Navigate (granular 2,4-D) and Applied Biochemists and Marine Biochemists applied the herbicide for free. Infested area started out at 130 acres, but was reduced to 40 acres. In June 2010 another herbicide application occurred in Langford. This application was part of a study by John Skogerboe of the Army Corps of Engineers to compare the effectiveness of Navigate (granular 2,4-D) with that of Navitrol (granular triclopyr). Monitoring of EWM will continue throughout the summer.

Long Lake – John Skogerboe came out 4 times last summer, he is using Long Lake as a comparison against Langford Lake. There are no known invasive species in the lake. The CWPMA provided \$9,000 to treat Japanese barberry near the lake.

Paint River Pond – This waterway belongs to WE Energies. EWM is present, but boaters are typically surprised to hear that it has EWM in it. WE Energies is conducting a small test of different treatment strategies, no results are yet available.

Perch Lake – No invasive aquatic plants, but rusty crayfish are present. Purple loosestrife is also present. Have installed the new 4x4 AIS sign from Nicolet.

Pomeroy Lake – EWM first discovered here in 2004. USFS owns all land around Pomeroy Lake and is working on plan for what to do about Pomeroy's infestation. Marine Biochemists applied 2550 pounds of Navigate to 17 acres of EWM near the boat launch on June 10, 2010.

[Update: The bay had a lot of EWM in 2009, but none was evident at the surface during Navigate application. Army Corps surveys later in the summer found very little EWM in Pomeroy Lake. Pomeroy Lake was about 12"-18" higher this year. The water is often opaque from abundant algae. Perhaps the EWM didn't receive enough sunlight this year.]

Prickett Lake – Managed by UPPCO. In 2008, 113 acres of EWM present. There has been some treatment of EWM near the boat launch by UPPCO here, including drawing down water levels.

[Update: There was a 12-foot drawdown in fall 2009. On May 27, 2010, UPPCO reviewed the boat landing and surrounding one acre for EWM. At the time of the survey no EWM was observed, so no herbicide treatment was done. On August 9, 2010, UPPCO mapped eight stands of EWM, totaling 30 acres, less than the 38 acres they measured in 2009. A few EWM plants were observed outside of the boat landing navigation channel, but still within the surrounding one acre. On August 8 and 9 EnviroScience came to Prickett Lake and sampled the eight EWM stands. They found naturally-occurring milfoil weevils at each site. They calculated a systemwide average of 0.53 weevils per EWM stem.]

Runkle Lake – Hybrid milfoil documented in lake. Treated 5/27/2010 by Cason & Associates. 900 lbs of Navigate applied at 100-150 pounds per acre. 2000 lbs of Navitrol applied at 67 lbs per acre-foot.

Sunset Lake – Has a permanent boat wash station. Station is staffed/monitored by the campground host, Elmo. No EWM present, but curly leaf pondweed may be present. Some purple loosestrife present on shoreline. People reported that Jason Wickland, Conservation Officer, from the Michigan DNRE has not been paying any attention to boat washing. He launches at many different lakes and apparently rarely takes time to inspect and clean his boat. Sheriff's deputies also go out without cleaning their boats. Members of the public have told boat inspectors, "Why wash our boats when the DNRE and the sheriff don't wash theirs."

Swan Lake – No known EWM. Newsletter sent out to alert lake residents about reports of rusty crayfish in the lake. Will continue water quality and clarity monitoring for the next year or two.

3. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

Dr. John Rothlisberger gave a presentation on local work to be done as part of the [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#). A copy of his presentation is posted along with these notes. Specific projects planned for our area include:

- Purchase four trailered HydroTek pressure washers, for the Iron County Conservation District, ISCCW, Bergland Township (for Lake Gogebic), and the Ottawa NF.
- Fund Clean Boats Clean Waters educators to staff all five boat washers. The 5th washer was previously purchased and staffed by Lake Guards. Results in Table 2.
- Construct a permanent boat washer at Black River Harbor
- Construct a permanent boat washer at Hagerman Lake
- Possibly work with Nordine's in Watersmeet to provide for free boat washes at their car wash. The former DEQ was concerned about AIS entering the Township sewer, so engineering may be needed to treat the wash water or keep it from the sewer.
- Create and install new large AIS signs for all Forest Service boat launches.
- Funding for two Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker billboards along US 2, near Ironwood and Iron River.
- Printing new Clean Boats Clean Waters brochures.
- The GLRI funded two AIS survey contracts in 2010, through the Ottawa NF, covering 37 lakes. Andrea Corpolongo-Smith surveyed 15 lakes . Lake and Pond Solutions surveyed 22 lakes. See Table 3 for results.

This year, the Ottawa National Forest, Iron County Conservation District, ISCCW, and Bergland Township signed Modification #4 to the WUPCWPMMA Participating Agreement. This allows \$58,172 of GLRI funds to be shared with the partners, for staffing the boat washers and related expenses. The ISCCW already had their own boat washer, so that makes five boat washers operating in our CWMA in 2010. Training on the new washers was held in Ironwood on June 8, 2010.

Twelve people were hired to do CBCW education and staff the five boat washers. Bruce Siskonen and Terri Carlson staffed the Lake Gogebic boat washer. Angie Stine and Cody Stachowicz staffed the Iron County boat washer, administered by Gail Dalpra. Delores Sewell, Marvin Schwin, Frank Puffer, and Dennis Bolton staffed the ISCCW boat washers. Ellen Manderfield, Colin Davis, Amanda Strick, and Andy Schollett staffed the Forest Service boat washer.

Table 2. Final 2010 Clean Boats Clean Waters and boat washing results.

Who	Number of boats washed	Number of people contacted (CBCW)	Other contacts (parades, news articles, presentations, etc.)
Ottawa NF	45	339	7580
Lake Gogebic	45	1438	
ISCCW	567	5507	
Iron County CD	91	548	500
Total	748	7832	8080

Table 3. GLRI-funded contract lake surveys in 2010.

Lake name	County	GIS ACRES	Who	Date surveyed
BASS LAKE	Iron	100.66	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/17/2010
Black River Harbor	Gogebic	11.80	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/16/2010
BOBCAT LAKE	Gogebic	89.07	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
CHAMBERLAIN LAKE	Iron	34.20	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/17/2010
County Line Lake	Gog. & Onto.	82.19	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
CRYSTAL LAKE	Houghton	16.58	Corpolongo & Smith	7/18/2010
DEADMAN LAKE	Gog. & Onto.	49.55	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/16/2010
EEL LAKE	Gogebic	51.81	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/16/2010
ESTES LAKE	Houghton	27.65	Corpolongo & Smith	7/4/2010
GLARE LAKE	Iron	10.01	Corpolongo & Smith	8/1/2010
GLITTER LAKE	Iron	27.70	Corpolongo & Smith	7/18/2010
GRASS LAKE	Gogebic	42.93	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
HAGER LAKE	Houghton	40.34	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/17/2010
HANNAH WEBB	Iron	64.14	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/17/2010
HARDING LAKE	Iron	36.74	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/17/2010
HENRY LAKE	Gogebic	46.84	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/16/2010
HOLLY LAKE	Gogebic	37.93	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
IRISH LAKE	Houghton	17.89	Corpolongo & Smith	7/4/2010
JAMES LAKE	Iron	205.67	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/17/2010
KUNZE LAKE	Houghton	14.02	Corpolongo & Smith	8/1/2010
LITTLE OXBOW LAKE	Gogebic	97.13	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
LOWER DAM LAKE	Houghton	14.88	Corpolongo & Smith	7/18/2010
MISTY LAKE	Gogebic	14.17	Corpolongo & Smith	9/5/2010
MOOSEHEAD LAKE	Gogebic	50.96	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
MORaine LAKE	Gogebic	90.76	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/16/2010
NORWAY LAKE	Iron	51.88	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/17/2010
ORMES LAKE	Gogebic	51.69	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/16/2010
PAULDING POND	Ontonagon	10.09	Corpolongo & Smith	8/8/2010
PENEGOR LAKE	Houghton	9.83	Corpolongo & Smith	6/27/2010
RANGE LAKE	Gogebic	18.83	Corpolongo & Smith	9/5/2010
REDBOAT LAKE	Gogebic	26.49	Corpolongo & Smith	9/5/2010
ROBBINS POND	Ontonagon	5.64	Corpolongo & Smith	8/22/2010
STEUSSER LAKE	Ontonagon	35.53	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/16/2010
SUDDEN LAKE	Ontonagon	39.21	Lake&Pond Solution: Harp & Carlson	8/17/2010
TANLUND LAKE	Ontonagon	7.02	Corpolongo & Smith	8/22/2010
TEPEE LAKE	Iron	122.58	Lake&Pond Solution: Folz & Schroeder	8/17/2010
THRUSH LAKE	Gogebic	18.67	Corpolongo & Smith	9/5/2010

4. New agreement

The WUPCWPMMA currently receives support from the US Forest Service through a Participating Agreement. This agreement expires in 2010 and will need to be renewed for 2011. Under new FS rules, the new Participating Agreement will be signed by the Ottawa NF and the Treasurer of the WUPCWPMMA (currently the Iron County Conservation District, with plans to remain as such). All other members of the WUCWPMA, including the Ottawa NF and the Iron County Conservation District, will sign an MOU to work together on issues of common interest (i.e., the prevention and control of invasive species). Under this arrangement,

adding new members will require that all 23 current members sign off on the new member. If new groups want to join, it would be much easier to do so before the new agreement is in effect.

The new Forest Service rules for Participating Agreements also dictate that when partners contract work to be done and plan to use funds provided by the Forest Service through the participating agreement to pay for the work, the partner must provide at least 50% of the necessary funds. This may have some implications for how work is done and paid for by the CWPMA.

Ian Shackelford of the Ottawa National Forest proposed that with the new agreement we change our name to the Western Peninsula Invasives Council (**WePIC**). This name would tie in to the naming theme of the [Upper Peninsula Invasives Council](#) (UPIC) and would roll off the tongue more easily than WUPCWPMA. Someone in the audience seconded the motion to change the name and there appeared to be general voice assent for the new name. [Update: the Ottawa NF will be working on the new agreement during the winter, to have it in place before next summer.]

5. Other news

The above-mentioned Modification #4 also included \$11,000 of regular National Forest invasive plant funds for the WUPCWPMA. The Long Lake Riparian Owners Association received \$9,000 to hire a contractor ([4 Control](#)) to spray the invasive plant Japanese barberry near Long Lake and Thousand Island Lake. This infestation is over 200 acres and very thick in places. \$2,000 was provided to the Gogebic Conservation District to hire a contractor ([Asplundh](#)) to spray garlic mustard in Ironwood and Bessemer. Garlic mustard a high priority invasive plant in our area, and more infestations are being found around Ironwood and Bessemer. If garlic mustard overruns our local communities, it will constantly be introduced to the surrounding natural areas.

New Invasives Grant Received: Gail Dalpra of the Iron County Conservation District announced that the conservation districts of the Upper Peninsula received a \$150,000 "[RRip-It-Up](#)" grant to address invasive species problems in the region. The plan under this grant is to "map it, zap it, and map it again," referring to invasive species populations. The work will focus on terrestrial invasive species, but there may be some opportunities for EWM projects. The conservation districts need people in the community to call and tell them where infestations are found. A task force of volunteers will be formed in each county to do the work. Funds are available to pay for volunteer mileage.

Other updates from 2010:

- *Three new organizations joined the CWMA in 2010: Maplewood Timberland (a property owners association on the east shore of Thousand Island Lake), Bergland Township, and the Lake Mary Association.*
- *One new Eurasian watermilfoil infestation was discovered in 2010: three small spots in Thousand Island Lake, discovered by Bill Artwich under contract with the Lake Guards.*
- *The Lake Guards contracted with Bill Artwich to survey approximately 16 lakes in Watersmeet Township.*