



## What is a Weed Cooperative?

Otherwise known as Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)

- Local weed management organization
- Led by a steering committee
- Formally organized under agreement
- Facilitates cooperation and coordination
- Network across all jurisdictional boundaries

A CWMA is a Formal Agreement between parties that can be a long-term strategy for a long-term problem.

## Executive Order 13112

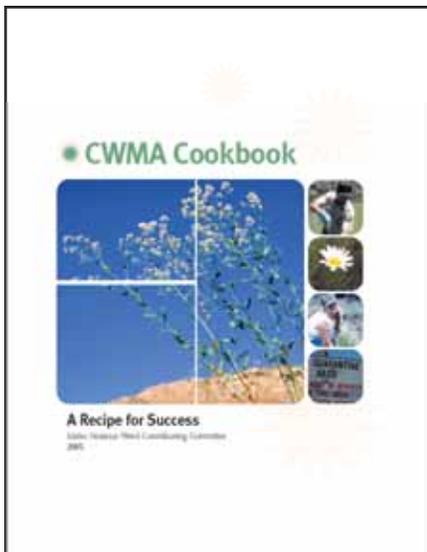
Each Federal agency whose actions may affect the status of invasive species shall...

- (i) **prevent the introduction of invasive species;**
- (ii) **detect and respond rapidly to and control populations of such species** in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner;
- (iii) **monitor invasive species** populations accurately and reliably;
- (iv) provide for **restoration of native species** and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded;
- (v) **conduct research on invasive species** and develop technologies to prevent introduction and provide for environmentally sound control of invasive species;
- (vi) **promote public education** on invasive species and the means to address them

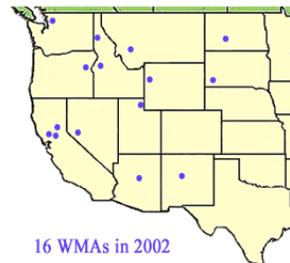
**Federal agencies shall pursue the duties set forth in this section** in consultation with the Invasive Species Council, consistent with the Invasive Species Management Plan and **in cooperation with stakeholders.**



## CWMAs out West

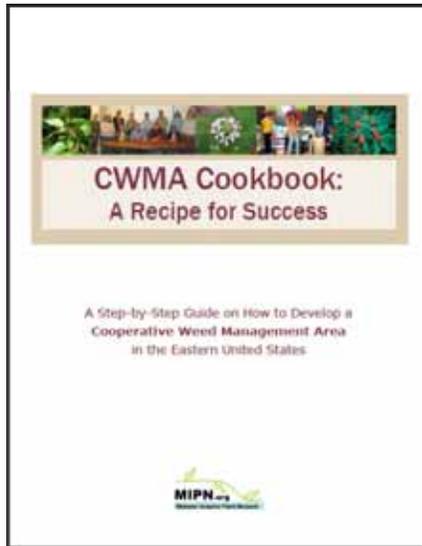


**2002: 16 WMAs in 14 States**



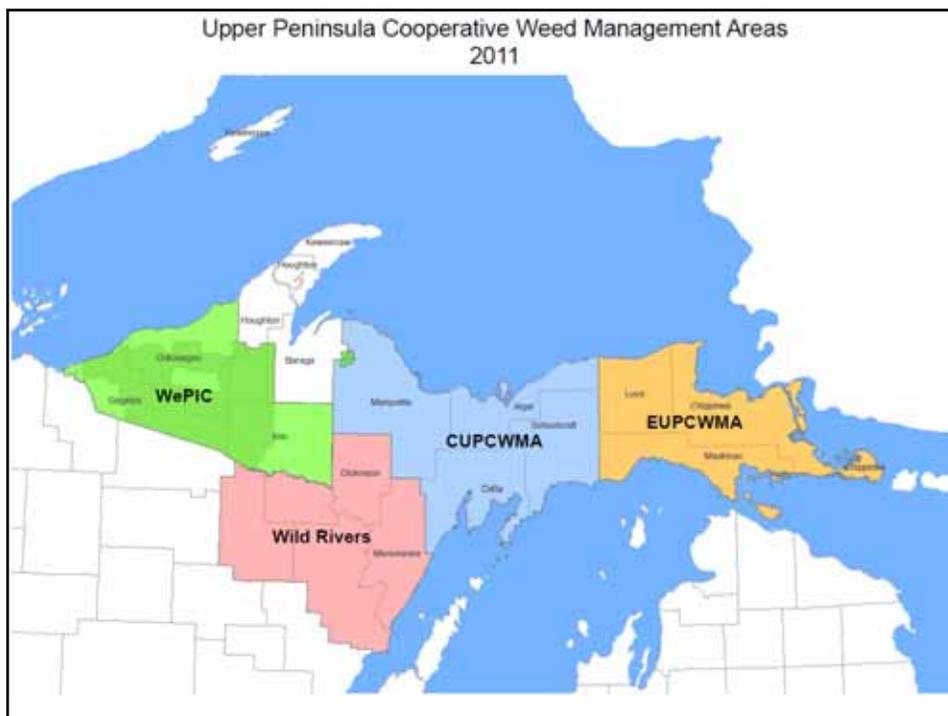
16 WMAs in 2002

## CWMAs in the East



### Names for Invasive Species Partnerships

- CWMA: Cooperative Weed Management Area
- CWPMA: Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area
- WMA: Weed Management Area
- WPA: Weed Prevention Areas
- PRISM: Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (New York)
- CISMA: Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (Florida)



## One tool for tackling the troublemakers:

### Form an Invasive Species Cooperative!

- Often are multi-county
- Potential partners...
  - ✓land conservation
  - ✓forest industry
  - ✓DNR
  - ✓RC&D
  - ✓recreation groups
  - ✓utilities
  - ✓nurseries/greenhouses
  - ✓sportsmen & ATV groups
  - ✓tribes
  - ✓US Forest Service
  - ✓lake associations
  - ✓ private citizens
  - ✓ garden clubs
  - ✓ landowners
  - ✓ road commissions
  - ✓ schools & universities



## What do CWMA's do?

### \* Prevention



*Boot Brush Stations*



*Clean boats, Clean Waters*

## What do CWMA's do?

### \*Education – Awareness



# Share Information!

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Baraga Conservation District - Cathy Newland, Administrator             | KBIC - Pam Nankervis, Wildlife Biologist  | Webster  |
| Baraga County Road Commission - Douglas J. Mills, Engineer/Manager      | KBIC - Todd Warner  | Michigan Technological University - Dr. Dana Richter                                   |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs - David Osmak, Michigan Agency Forester        | Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Evelyn Ravindran                                      | Michigan Technological University - Dr. Linda Nagel                                    |
| Central UP CWMA - Dave Magno  | Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College - Erin Johnston                                 | MSU Extension - Baraga County - Mike Jensen, County Extension Director                 |
| Copper Country Audubon Club - President Dana Richter                    | Keweenaw Land Trust - Evan McDonald - Executive Director                              | MSU Extension - Houghton/Keweenaw Counties - Mike Schira                               |
| Copper Country Chapter - Trout Unlimited - Shawn P. Hagan, President    | Keweenaw Land Trust - Pat Toczydlowski  | National Park Service, Great Lakes Exotic Plant Management Team - Carmen Chapin        |
| Finlandia University - Jason Oyadomari, Assistant Professor, Science    | Keweenaw National Historical Park - Steve Delong, Landscape Architect                 | North Country Trail - Doug Welker  |
| FOLK - Bob Darling  | Keweenaw National Historical Park - Tom Baker, Management Assistant                   | NRCS - Jim Sweeting  |
| Forestland Group - Dave Fehringer                                       | Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative, Washington Middle School - Darrell Hendrickson  | Stewards of Bete Grise - Tom Collins, President  |
| Forestland Group - Shawn P. Hagan                                       | Michigan DNR - Bewabic State Park - Robert Strittmatter                               | Superior Watershed Partnership - The Nature Conservancy - Danielle Miller              |
| Fort Wilkins Historic State Park - Robert Strittmatter, Unit Supervisor | Michigan DNR: Baraga State Park - Dan Dowdy, Park Supervisor                          | UPPCO - James D. Nuthals   |
| GLIFWC - Miles Falck  | Michigan DNR: Craig Lake State Park - Doug Barry, Park Supervisor                     | UPRC&D Council - Darcy Rutkowski   |
| Grotto Lake Conservancy - Bonnie Hay                                    | Michigan DNR: Fort Wilkins Historic State Park - Robert Strittmatter, Park Supervisor | UPRC&D Council - Marilyn Shy   |
| Houghton County Road Commission - Kim Sohliden, Office Manager          | Michigan DNR: McLain State Park - Lee VerBerkmoes, Park Supervisor                    | US Forest Service (Ottawa NF) - Ian Shackelford, Botanist                              |
| Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District - Janet Marr                    | Michigan DNR: Twin Lakes State Park - Rich Pirhonen, Park Supervisor                  | US Forest Service (Ottawa NF) - Susan Trull  |
| Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District - Mark Klemp                    | Michigan DNRE - Donald Mankee   | Western UP Center for Science, Mathematics, & Environmental Education - Joan Chadde    |
| Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District - Sue Haralson, Administrator   | Michigan Nature Association -   | Western UP Center for Science, Mathematics, & Environmental Education - Lloyd Westcoat |
| Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association - Kristine Bradoff             | Michigan Technological University - Dr. Catherine Tarasoff                            |  |
| Isle Royale National Park - Mark Romanski (Wildlife Biologist)          | Michigan Technological University - Dr. Chris   |  |
| Isle Royale National Park - Paul Brown, Chief of Natural Resources      |   |  |
| Isle Royale NP - Valerie Martin   |   |  |

Others?

# What do CWMA's do?

## Early Detection – Rapid Response



CWMA's coordinate efforts to find and eliminate small infestations of plants like garlic mustard, so they don't become like this extreme infestation shown at right.



## What can YOU do?

**Band together to combat the invasives problem**



## Public Work Days



## **How to organize a Weed Cooperative**

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- 1. Choose an initial leader or champion**
- 2. Establish geographic boundaries**
- 3. Identify potential partners and begin building support**



## **Organizing a Cooperative**

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- 4. Determine common goals**
- 5. Choose a CWMA fiscal manager**
  - One way is to utilize a Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) as the fiscal manager
- 6. Hold a public meeting, and invite all partners**
- 7. Establish a Steering Committee**



## Organizing a Cooperative

8. Select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson
9. Develop a "Memorandum of Understanding" or a formal "Agreement"
10. Develop a plan and decide what to do each year
11. Add committees as needed

Officers help in organization but the cooperative is actually run by committee.



## Organizing a Cooperative

12. Toot your horn! Get media attention.



# Eastern UP CWMA



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
Among the following:

USDA Forest Service, Haverhill National Forest  
Chippewa-East Mackinac Conservation District  
The Nature Conservancy  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Tahquamenon Falls State Park  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Brimley State Park  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Mackinac Island State Park  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Straits State Park  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Forest Management Division  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Wildlife Division  
Bay Mills Indian Community  
LeChemin's Watershed Council  
Northern Wild Plant and Seed Co-op  
Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council  
The Foreland Group  
Michigan Kart Conservancy  
Hawasha Shore-to-Shore, North Country Trail Association  
Lac Seul Mackinac Conservation District  
Soney National Wildlife Refuge

(Hereinafter referred to as the "Parties")

**I. PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish and formalize a cooperative effort for the integrated management and control of invasive terrestrial and aquatic plant species across jurisdictional boundaries in Chippewa, Lac Seul and Mackinac Counties, and thus to create the Eastern Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed Management Area (EUP-CWMA).

**II. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFITS AND INTERESTS:** All signatories of this MOU have mutual interest in preventing the establishment and spread of invasive terrestrial and aquatic plant species and share the following common goals:

**A. EDUCATION** - Increase public and staff awareness of invasive terrestrial and aquatic plants.

**B. PREVENTION** - Prevent the establishment of new invasive plant species infestations and spread of existing invasive species infestations.

**C. CONTROL** - Promote the effective, integrated management or eradication of priority invasive plant species.

1



USDA United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

Ottawa National Forest  
Caring for the land and serving people

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## Resource Management

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- ▶ Learning Center
- ▶ Working Together

**Western UP Cooperative Weed and Pest Management**

Currently we are focused on aquatic invasive species. Our area of interest is Gogebic and Iron Counties and the Ottawa National Forest.

Ownerships are federal townships, county, and private. We are fortunate that our local ecosystem is still mostly free of invasive species, and our goal is to control what is already here, and to prevent further spread into our area. By cooperating together, we can share resources and expertise across ownership and political boundaries to more efficiently manage invasive species.

Our Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area (CWPMAs) cover 2.5 million acres, and includes over 700 lakes, and 150 public boat access points. Almost all of our lakes are still healthy and diverse, but are under increasing threat from newly-arrived aquatic invasive species. Eurasian watermilfoil is documented in 15 lakes.

**Alerts & Warnings**

- Emerald Ash Borer Alert

[View All Forest Alerts ...](#)

**Key Contacts**

**Forest Planner**  
Brian Bogaczyk  
(906) 932-1330

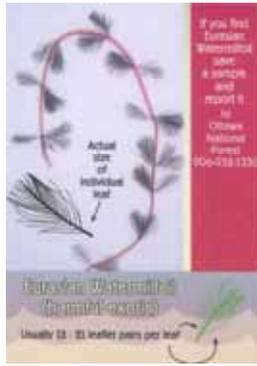
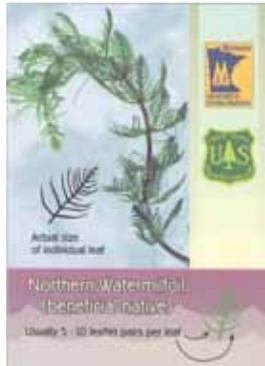
**Fire Management Officer**  
Dean Karlovich  
(906) 358-4551

**Forest Hydrologist**  
Ellen Lesch  
(906) 932-1330

**Fish Biologist**  
Holly Jennings  
(906) 932-1330

# 2006

- 119 signs (\$1,493.45)
- 6,000 cards for \$1,000
- Donated \$2,166.67 to Duck, Ice, and Runkle lakes to help pay for their EW milfoil treatments.



**Exotic Species Alert**  
 These Waters Contain The Following Aquatic Nuisance Species:

Help prevent the spread of these non-native plants and animals to other lakes and streams:

- Inspect all parts of your boat, trailer and other equipment.
- Remove all mud, debris, plants, and animals.
- Drain all water including bilge, live well, etc. before leaving water access area.
- Wash your boat and trailer at home. Flush water through cooling system, live wells, other areas that hold water. Preferably, dry boat and equipment for 5 days in a sunny location before use in new body of water.

Michigan laws prohibit possessing or introducing restricted aquatic nuisance species such as Eurasian watermilfoil (PA 451 Part 413).

Remember... Clean Boats - Clean Waters

# 2007

- 7,500 double-sided tri-fold brochures for \$500

**CLEAN BOATS  
 CLEAN WATERS**

Lakes Protection - How to do your part!

Western Upper Peninsula  
 Cooperative Weed and Pest  
 Management Area

**Boat Launch  
 Education Program  
 to Slow the Spread  
 of Aquatic Invasive  
 Species**

2007

Photo: Dickinson Conservation District

## 2008

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



## 2009

- 10,000 CBCW brochures for \$500
- Received \$2,250 Boat US Foundation Grant



# 2010

- GLRI funds for AIS education & prevention with portable boat washers
  - \$17,300 for Watersmeet Lake Guards
  - \$9,680 for Lake Gogebic Improvement Association
  - \$19,680 for Iron County Conservation District
  - \$6,210 for 45 boat launch AIS signs
- \$9000 for Long Lake & Thousand Island Lake for Japanese barberry control
- CBCW brochures: 9,897 copies for \$500



## For more information...

- Midwest Invasive Plant Network

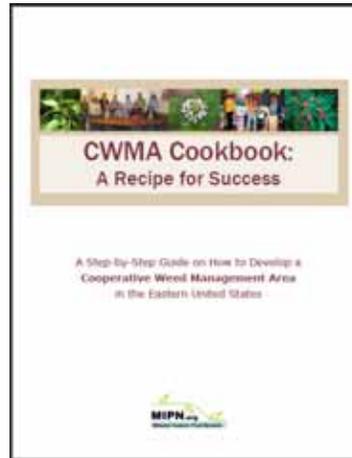
[www.mipn.org](http://www.mipn.org)

- Ian Shackelford

Ottawa National Forest

906-932-1330 x331

ishackelford@fs.fed.us



## Steps

1. Choose an initial leader or champion
2. Establish geographic boundaries
3. Identify potential partners and begin building support
4. Determine common goals
5. Choose a CWMA fiscal manager
6. Hold a public meeting, and invite all partners
7. Establish a Steering Committee
8. Select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson
9. Develop a "Memorandum of Understanding" or a formal "Agreement"
10. Develop a strategic plan
11. Develop an annual operating plan
12. Add committees as needed
13. Implement plans
14. Celebrate success and get media attention.