

Second Meeting to Discuss a Cooperative Weed Management Area
for Houghton, Keweenaw and Baraga Counties
Michigan Tech Lakeshore Center Community Room.

March 28, 2011
MEETING NOTES

DRAFT

Agenda

1:00 pm	Welcome & Introductions Review agenda: Any changes, additions, deletions? Review ground rules – Discuss decision making process
1:15 pm	Continue discussion on whether group will focus on invasive plants, or have a more broad coverage of all invasive species Ian will present survey information Consensus decision?
1:30 pm	Discuss name for the group Ian will present survey information Vote, or consensus decision
1:45 pm	Discuss activities for this year Ian will present survey information Any new ideas? Vote, or consensus decision
2:30 pm	Select fiscal agent
2:45 pm	Wrap-Up. Select date, time and location for next meeting.
3:00 pm	Adjourn

1. Welcome & introductions.

15 people came to the meeting.

Contact	Organization
Dave Fehringer, Assistant Regional Director of Forest Operations	Forestland Group
Janet Marr	Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District
Mark Klemp	Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District
Sue Haralson, Administrator	Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District
Kristine Bradoff	Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association
Valerie Martin	Isle Royale NP
Evelyn Ravindran	Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Natural Resources
Karen Andersen	Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Natural Resources
Doug Barry, Park Supervisor	Michigan DNR: Craig Lake State Park
Robert Strittmatter, Park Supervisor	Michigan DNR: Fort Wilkins Historic State Park
Mark Romanski (Wildlife Biologist)	National Park Service, Isle Royale National Park
Danielle Miller	The Nature Conservancy
Marilyn Shy	UPRC&D Council
Ian Shackelford, Botanist	US Forest Service (Ottawa NF)
Susan Trull	US Forest Service (Ottawa NF)

We introduced ourselves and reviewed the agenda. We talked about the need to raise awareness about our ground and meetings. Kristine Bradoff mentioned the Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association has a Facebook page that can help publicize events.

Marilyn Shy suggested some ground Rules, posted on the wall. Attendees indicated support for the ground rules.

<p style="text-align: center;">Ground Rules for Effective Groups</p> <p><u>Core Values Guiding the Ground Rules</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transparency• Curiosity• Accountability• Informed Choice• Compassion <p><u>Ground Rules</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. State views and ask genuine questions.2. Share all relevant information.3. Use specific examples and agree on what important words mean.4. Explain reasoning and intent.5. Test assumptions and inferences.6. Jointly design next steps.7. Focus on interests, not positions.8. Discuss undiscussable issues.9. Use a decision-making rule that generates the level of commitment needed.

How soon do we need an MOU? There is no rush. We can do some things before we have an MOU.

Do we need an MOU before a coordinator? No. Either one could come first.

Can we make decisions by consensus? Perhaps. Votes may be necessary at times. Source of money may have their own rules. Let's try consensus.

2. Discussion about covering just plants or all invasive species.

Ian shared the Survey Monkey results. 11 people said we should cover all non-native invasive species, but focus on plants at first. 4 people said we should work with all non-native invasive species. 4 said we should only deal with non-native invasive plants.

If we don't call ourselves a "Cooperative Weed Management Area" would we be ineligible for some funding/programs? Our MOU, web page, and information should say we are a CWMA, or filling that role.

We decided to cover all non-native invasive species, but focus on plants at first.

3. Discuss name for group

We discussed possible names for a while. We reviewed the Survey Monkey results. We talked about the relative importance of the name versus the acronym. We talked about what names would represent the three counties. Does the word "Keweenaw" cover Baraga County. People thought it did. Do we want to name ourselves after the group or the area we cover?

We eventually took a vote on six names:

- Keweenaw Invasive Species Cooperative (KISC)
- Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area (KISMA)
- Keweenaw Invasives Cooperative (KIC)
- Keweenaw Invasive Species Management & Education Team (KISMET)
- Keweenaw Invasive Species Partnership (KISP)
- Keweenaw Invasives Partnership (KIP)

We selected **Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area (KISMA)**.

4. Discuss activities for this year

What rules are there for this money? This depends on the FY2011 federal budget. We hope to receive Great Lakes Restoration Initiative money, like the Central UP and Eastern UP CWMAs did. We could keep using that money longer. If we use regular Ottawa NF funds all our work would need to be done by September 30, 2011. [New information: Regular ONF funds could not be used to hire an administrator or do invasive plant treatments that don't directly benefit National Forest land. Education and mapping would probably be eligible.]

How would an agreement work? All KISMA members would sign a Memorandum of Understanding, prepared by us. If the Forest Service has funding to share, we would also need a Participating Agreement between the Forest Service and a fiscal agent. This is how the nearby CWMAs have done their agreements.

How would a contract work? Together we would draft a contract on what we wanted (administration, coordination, education, mapping, event planning, writing). One of us would be responsible for the contract. Is office space available? There might be space in this building, with the HKCD, but it would be up to NRCS.

Should we have a steering committee? Marilyn recommends it. The Eastern UP CWMA has an active steering committee of 5-7 people, volunteers. The Central UP CWMA had a steering committee at first, but seldom meets now. Some of us may not be allowed to participate or vote due to rules of our agencies. Just making recommendations may be okay.

What is the purpose of the steering committee? We discussed that a while. Some people recommended language from the recently completed strategic plan for the Eastern UP CWMA:

Eastern UP CWMA Steering Committee

The purpose of the Steering Committee, on behalf of the MOU partners, is to provide direction, identify opportunities, and further the goal of cooperative invasive plant

management. The Steering Committee will assist the partners by preparing alternatives for group deliberation. Steering Committee meetings will be open to all partners. The Committee will have up to 9, but not fewer than 5 members. Serving as a member of the Steering Committee is voluntary. The members will serve 2-year terms.

Steering Committee members will be nominated, including self-nominations, every 2 years during an annual spring meeting of the partnership. If more than 9 members are nominated, a vote will be taken. Only 2 representatives from a signatory group (of the MOU) may be on the Steering Committee at the same time.

Decisions made by the Steering Committee, or made by the EUP CWMA partners will be made by consensus where possible. If not, a simple majority vote will be used for decision-making. In the case of the Steering Committee voting, there will be one vote allowed per member. In the case of the EUP CWMA partners, there will be one vote per signatory group (one vote per each signing agency or organization).

In addition to the Steering Committee, sub committees will be formed to complete tasks such as creating and reviewing documents, or portions of documents (MOU, strategic plan), developing educational materials, developing programs for early detection and rapid response (EDRR), developing management zones, and other tasks as the partners see fit.

The Steering Committee will meet as often as necessary to carry out their duties.

Who might be our fiscal agent? HKCD may still be okay with that. Anyone else? No one volunteered.

Educational materials: Ian offered that Forest Service could use existing funds to purchase invasive species educational materials for prospective KISMA members. Please let him know what you would like. [Update: For ideas on what's available, see this [list of the Ottawa's favorite NNIP educational materials.](#)]

Baraga Conservation District earlier asked for ~\$300 worth of materials. KBIC could use some materials too.

Who might like to be on our steering committee? Some people volunteered.

- USFS (Ian Shackleford)
- Park Service (Mark Romanski, Isle Royale NP)
- Janet Marr
- HKCD (someone)
- KBIC (someone)
- DNR (someone)

If USFS gets approval for a contract, we will prepare draft specs and send to steering committee.

Janet Marr talked about the status of Houghton County garlic mustard. She knows of four known garlic mustard infestations in this area:

- one in a yard in Houghton(they are working on it)

- another in a yard in Houghton(they are working on it)
- One site in Calumet (small)
- One on Michigan Tech property, ...

There is a new botany club at Michigan Tech that could work on their site. Perhaps all the known garlic mustard sites already have planned treatments this spring. Is there a need for us to plan a garlic mustard work day? [Update: Janet Marr suggests the two Calumet sites could still be a possibility for a KISMA work day.]

Other ideas for a workday?

- Leafy spurge?
- Knotweed?
- Dana Richter mentioned a purple loosestrife site (Lily Pond).
- Phragmites near Pilgrim River?
- Demonstration site for spotted knapweed McClain?
- Other demonstration site/workdays?
- [Small knotweed (giant or Japanese) site along old two-track near nice sphagnum tamarack/black spruce wetland just outside of town.]
- [Big patch of knotweed at the Ford Center.]

We talked about finding people to help with work days. Ideas included:

- Lighthouse learners... middle school students...
- Upward Bound...
- Locals think of knapweed as a bad invasive.

Are local Township, governments being informed? Ian does not have a list of contacts.

Is GMO on the list? No. Ian needs a local contact person.

Any smaller timber companies? No. Please give Ian contact information.

5. Fiscal agent. Covered earlier. HKCD may be willing to be the fiscal agent.

6. Next meeting.

When should the big group meet next? Let's not pick a day now. Maybe our first work day?

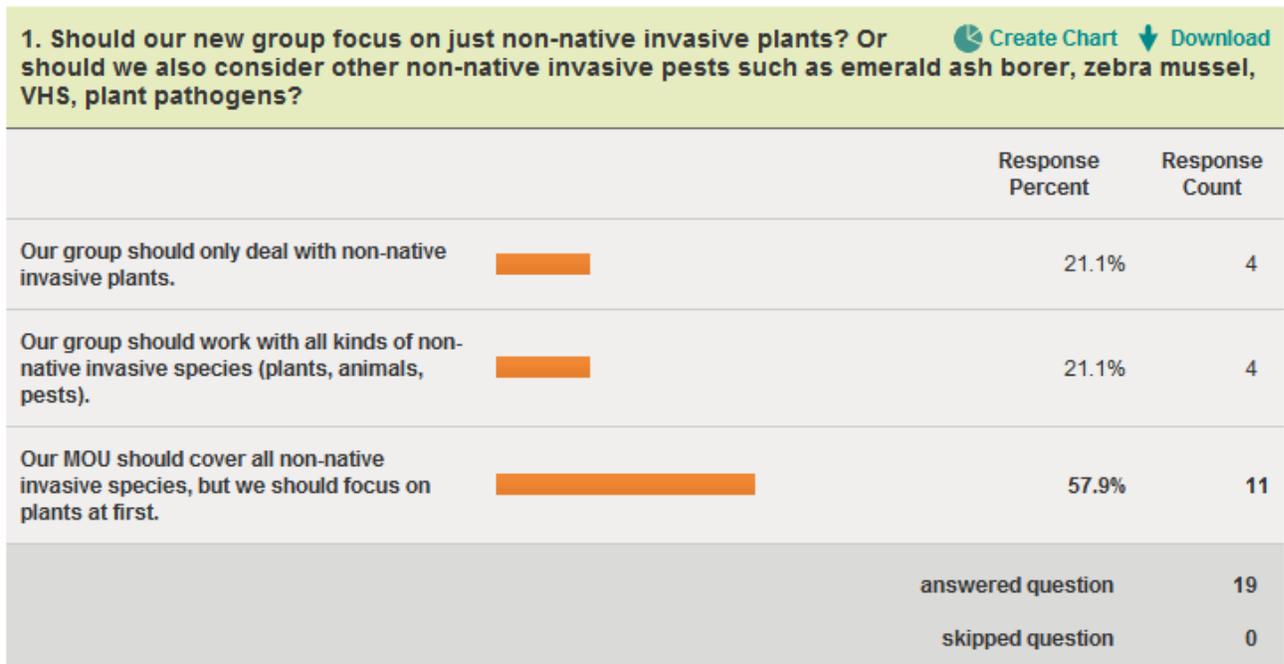
Houghton Keweenaw Baraga Invasive Group SurveyMonkey

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JM2TK7V>

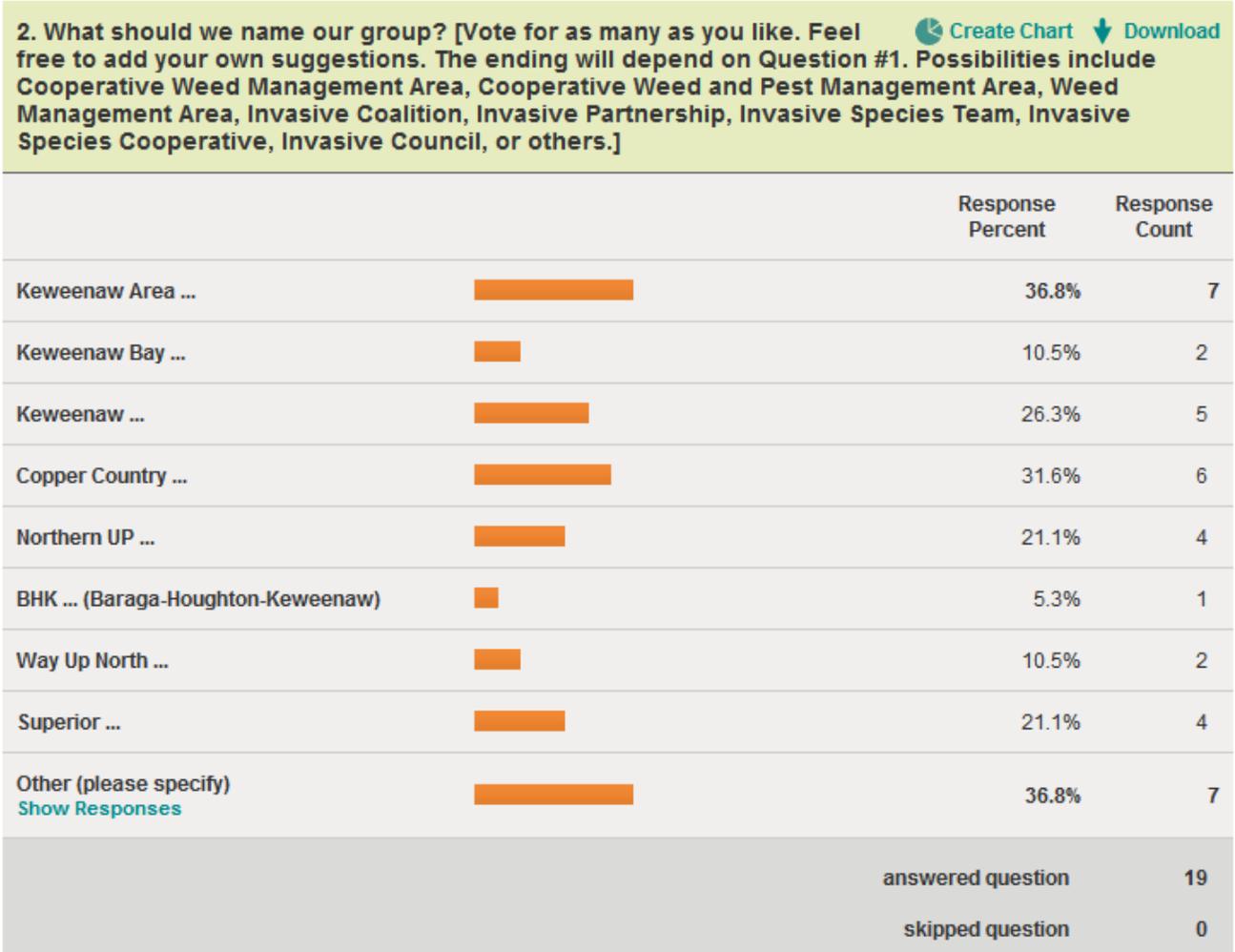
Total Started Survey: 19

Total Completed Survey: 19 (100%)

1. Should our new group focus on just non-native invasive plants? Or should we also consider other non-native invasive pests such as emerald ash borer, zebra mussel, VHS, plant pathogens?



2. What should we name our group? [Vote for as many as you like. Feel free to add your own suggestions. The ending will depend on Question #1. Possibilities include Cooperative Weed Management Area, Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area, Weed Management Area, Invasive Coalition, Invasive Partnership, Invasive Species Team, Invasive Species Cooperative, Invasive Council, or others.]



Also consider "Collaboration" vs. Partnership, Council, Coalition

3/18/11 7:38PM

invasive species partnership

3/19/11 2:14AM

I Like KIC and NUPIC best for acronyms

3/19/11 2:18AM

Keweenaw Area Weeds and Invasives Species Management Area - KAWISMA :-)

3/22/11 1:32AM

prefer ...Invasive Plant... over ...Cooperative Weed...

3/26/11 5:40AM

possibly KISMA Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area

3/28/11 8:51AM

3. What should we do this year? [Let's assume creating an MOU is a given. Perhaps we can do many or all of these options. Please pick your preferred four choices, and rank them in order.]

	First choice	Second choice	Third choice	Fourth choice	Rating Average	Response Count
Create local educational materials (display, pamphlets)	12.5% (1)	37.5% (3)	37.5% (3)	12.5% (1)	2.50	8
Hire/contract an administrator for our group.	60.0% (9)	26.7% (4)	6.7% (1)	6.7% (1)	1.60	15
Invasive training.	8.3% (1)	41.7% (5)	41.7% (5)	8.3% (1)	2.50	12
Host public work days to treat one or more sites.	28.6% (4)	7.1% (1)	35.7% (5)	28.6% (4)	2.64	14
Pay to treat a particular site.	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.00	0
Have a workshop on a particular topic (buckthorn? knotweed?).	33.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	33.3% (2)	33.3% (2)	2.67	6
Purchase equipment: gloves, loppers, bags...	0.0% (0)	50.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	50.0% (1)	3.00	2
Surveys (old dumps, snow dumps, high quality natural areas)	50.0% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	50.0% (3)	2.50	6
Create a strategic plan.	28.6% (4)	35.7% (5)	14.3% (2)	21.4% (3)	2.29	14
			Other (please specify) Hide Responses			7

- Create local educational materials (display, pamphlets) 3/18/11 2:22AM
- Establish a useful public database for the area 3/18/11 2:31AM
- Complete MOU - Would be my second choice. 3/18/11 7:38PM
- Would like to see workdays at garlic mustard sites 3/19/11 2:18AM
- Funding sources will dictate expenditures - current funding likely needs to be non-treatment related. Focus on admin. to start with, but work out some site work to keep everyone's interest. 3/22/11 1:32AM
- Develop citizen-based monitoring on private and public lands; volunteer patrol sections for high-quality natural areas 3/26/11 5:40AM
- 3rd/4th choices: education for both choices (target groups like hunters, bikers, etc. about "why should I care about invasives," plus further educate "the choir" by invasive training (plant ID, control of specific invasives); continue RRIP-IT-UP (surveys, mapping, picking priority spots for control) 3/28/11 8:51AM

4. Do you have any comments you would like to share?

There is a need for administration for all of these ideas and the Houghton-Keweenaw Conservation District is a logical choice for this.

3/18/11 2:31AM

Thanks for making this happen! 3/18/11 7:38PM

Great job designing the survey! 3/19/11 2:18AM

Nice work on the initial meeting. 3/22/11 1:32AM

I like the interest and energy that this group has shown to date. 3/23/11 3:01AM

Pick the 'battle targets' first: prioritize by spp + identify priority sites (high quality natural areas); focus on public education strategies to enhance detection of those spp (state/fed nat.resource agencies should educate their own people); let RRIP-IT-UP do trainings (they already do it well); 3/26/11 5:40AM

Ian, I have a list (will probably talk about some at Hoton meeting tomorrow March 27). Janet
3/28/11 8:51AM