AGENDA

Eau Claire County

• Land Conservation Commission •

Date: Monday October 23, 2023 **Time**: 1:00 pm

Location: *Ag Resource Center, Room-103 & 104*

227 1st Street West, Altoona, WI 54720

Join WebEx Meeting:

https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=md8c67c484e37da0154c9a0ecb985a514

Meeting number: 2530 373 0163 Password: qmMTJchD383

**Meeting audio can be listened to using this Audio conference dial in information.*

***Audio conference**: 1-415-655-0001, Access Code: 25303730163##*

For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Chad Berge at chad.berge@eauclairecounty.gov at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

A majority of the county board may be in attendance at this meeting, however, only members of the committee may take action on an agenda item.

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law
4. Public Comment Period
5. Review/Approval of the October 2, 2023, meeting minutes (Discussion/Action) **Page 2**
6. Review Vouchers and Ledger Update (Discussion) **Page 3**
7. Approval of new and/or previously authorized Cost-Share agreements. (Discussion/Action)
8. Lake Monitoring & Protection Network (LMPN) presentation by Bre Klockzien and review of the LMPN application and agreement with Beaver Creek Reserve (Discussion/Action) **Page 4 - 10**
9. Review of the 2024 Multi Discharger Variance funding (Discussion/Action) **Page 11**
10. 2024 NACD member dues (Discussion/Action) **Page 12**
11. Selection of the 2023 Conservation Award Nominees (Discussion/Action) **Page 13**
12. Committee, Staff and Agency Updates
    a. Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition
    b. Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) Funding
    c. Land Stewardship Subcommittee
    d. USDA-NRCS / FSA
    e. DNR
    f. UW-Extension
    g. Beaver Creek Reserve **Pages 14 - 24**
    h. Ascent Stormwater Database
13. Future Agenda items
14. Set date for next meeting
15. Adjourn

Prepared by: Holly Weigand

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters, remote access, or other auxiliary aids. Contact the clerk of the committee or Administration for assistance (715-839-5106). For additional information on ADA requests, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-7335, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, TTY: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023
AG RESOURCE CENTER, RM. 103 & 104
227 – 1ST STREET WEST, ALTOONA, WI 54720

Members Present:	Robin Leary, Tami Schraufnagel, Heather DeLuka, Missy Christopherson, Jim Stensen, Glory Adams
Members Absent:	Ricky Strauch, Jodi Lepsch
Staff Present:	Chad Berge, Heidi Pederson, Timothy Wucherer, Christina Rauh, Zach Mohr (LCD), Rod Eslinger (P&D)
Others Present:	Liz Usborne (DNR), Michele Skinner (Altoona Lake District), Jim Dunning (ECC Board)

1) Call to order by Chair
Chair Leary called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2) Roll call
Roll call was taken. A quorum was present with 6 members in attendance.

3) Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law
Leary confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

4) Public Comment Period
None.

5) Review/Approval of August 28, 2023, meeting minutes
DISCUSSION: The August 28, 2023, meeting minutes were reviewed.
ACTION: Motion by DeLuka to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote with no one in opposition, 6-0-0.

6) Review Vouchers and Ledger Update
DISCUSSION: The August 2023 expenditures and revenues were reviewed.

7) Approval of new and/or previously authorized Cost-Share agreements
DISCUSSION: No cost-share applications were previously authorized or presented for approval.

8) Bond funding transfer to Rusk County.
DISCUSSION: The committee discussed transferring $9,900.00 to Rusk County.

ACTION: Motion by Schraufnagel to approve the transfer of $9,900.00 to Rusk County. Motion carried on a voice vote with no one in opposition, 6-0-0.

9) Future Agenda Items
- Conservation Award Nominations

10) Set date for next meeting
The next LCC meeting was set for October 23, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

11) Adjourn
Leary adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad Berge

Chad Berge, LCC Clerk

Land Conservation Division
2023 Bills and Deposits

The following bills were sent to the Finance Department for payment.

September

Invoices

Vendor	Description	Account #	Amount
Premium Contracting	DATCP Madsen	207-15-56924-200-706	$ 11,408.00
Premium Contracting	Cost Share Madsen	207-15-56924-390-703	$ 1,140.80
ECC HWY	August Fuel	100-15-56920-330-000	$ 228.96
Paint Creek Nursery	Tree Order	100-15-56922-829-701	$ 3,000.00
Alpha Nurseries	Tree Order	100-15-56922-829-701	$ 2,500.00
Donald Steinke	Nutrient Management	207-15-56924-200-708	$ 1,000.00
Alan Henning	SEG	207-15-56924-200-707	$ 3,960.00
Paul Madsen	Engineering Services	207-15-56924-200-706	$ 3,422.40
Chad Berge	Mileage	100-15-56920-330-000	$ 26.46
RTK Mobile - Pcard	GPS Data	100-15-56920-226-000	$ 30.00
Voyager	August Fuel	100-15-56920-330-000	$ 228.96
		Total	$ 26,945.58

Deposits

The following deposits were taken to the Treasury Department to be processed.

Vendor	Description	Date	Account Number	Amount Deposited
Chris Borntreger	EC-23-22	9/11/2023	100-15-46820-000-000	$ 290.00
Michael Goodell	EC-23-23	9/15/2023	100-15-46820-000-000	$ 296.35
Duane Klindworth	NTD-23-17	9/26/2023	207-15-46820-000-720	$ 131.00
Donald Sedgeman	NTD-23-19	9/26/2023	207-15-46820-000-720	$ 283.00
Mike Gintner	NTD-23-18	9/15/2023	207-15-46820-000-720	$ 115.00
			Total	$ 1,115.35

Cooperative Agreement
to Satisfy Eligibility for
Beaver Creek Reserve
Calendar Year 2024

Project Title: Beaver Creek Reserve Regional LMPN for Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, and Rusk Counties
Term of Agreement: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

A. General Purpose

This Agreement documents the manner in which Beaver Creek Reserve (hereafter "agent") will provide core Aquatic Invasive Species ("AIS") Prevention and Citizen Lake Monitoring Network ("CLMN") services in the coverage area during the Term of Agreement referenced above. The coverage area includes the following counties: Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, and Rusk.

B. Eau Claire County designates Beaver Creek Reserve as its agent.

C. Goal of Eau Claire County

To improve surface water quality through the detection, prevention, and control of AIS and monitoring of lake water quality conditions.

D. Goal of Beaver Creek Reserve

To provide technical assistance to communities, stakeholders, and volunteers within the coverage area to prevent the spread of AIS, to provide education about AIS impacts and prevention, and to conduct lake monitoring.

E. Annual Meeting Requirement

All parties agree to meet annually to plan, prioritize, and coordinate pilot project activities.

F. Duties of the Agent

In cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the agent agrees to continue to implement an AIS Prevention and Outreach Program throughout coverage area. The agent will perform the following:

1) Provide local support and assistance in implementation of statewide communication and education priorities to ensure consistent AIS messaging.
    a. Work with WDNR and UW Madison, Division of Extension in implementation of the Wisconsin Statewide Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

b. Collaborate with WDNR on delivery of consistent project communication, outreach, and educational programming.
c. Participate in and coordinate local partner involvement in at least four statewide AIS initiatives including Landing Blitz, Drain Campaign, Waterfowl Hunter Outreach, Bait Shop Initiative and other campaigns as directed by the WDNR to AIS stakeholders in the coverage area. This includes providing media tools, resources, and messaging prompts to partners.
d. Coordinate with WDNR staff and other local partners within the coverage area to share AIS prevention and education efforts.
e. Meet with cooperative invasive species management areas (CISMAs), to assist with AIS education, monitoring, and response efforts.
f. Assist AIS grant recipients with AIS education and outreach tools to ensure consistent messaging as grants are awarded.
g. Participate in WDNR training on AIS Response Framework, including verification of AIS.
h. Assist the WDNR, UW Madison, Division of Extension, UW-Sea Grant, and other partners in identifying audiences and knowledge gaps in AIS prevention, awareness, and compliance.
i. Attend annual WDNR AIS and UW Lakes Partnership events and training sessions including, but not limited to:
    i. AIS Partnership meetings
    ii. Aquatic Invasive Species training sessions
    iii. Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) trainings
    iv. CLMN trainings
    v. Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol trainings
    vi. AIS Response Framework trainings
j. Adhere to decontamination and disinfection protocols required by the WDNR for controlling, transporting, and disposing of aquatic plants and animals, and moving water. This includes requirements under s. 30.07, Wis. Stats., and ss. NR 19.055 and NR 40.07, Wis. Adm. Code, as well as compliance with the most recent WDNR approved 'Boat, Gear, and Equipment Decontamination and Disinfection Protocol'.
k. Serve as media contact for the coverage area for relevant WDNR campaigns.

2) Coordinate the CLMN in Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin and Rusk Counties including water quality and/or AIS components:
    a. Conduct at least 2 CLMN training workshops for volunteers.
    b. Manage and distribute lake monitoring equipment.
    c. Train new volunteers on use of monitoring equipment, as needed.
    d. Perform at least 2 field checks on citizen monitors and conduct quality assurance checks on data entered into the WDNR Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS) by citizen monitors at the end of monitoring year.
    e. Provide email/phone support to answer questions and be point of contact to CLMN volunteers.
    f. Assist with SWIMS data entry, as needed.
3) Collect and report other chemical, biological, or physical data on lakes and lake ecosystems, including data on water levels and lake ice extent and duration as requested by WDNR.
4) Coordinate early detection monitoring for AIS:
    a. Serve as local coordinator of the annual AIS Snapshot Day by recruiting and training volunteers and monitor at least 6 locations.
    b. Monitor for AIS using CLMN methods at public boat launches.
    c. Provide AIS response monitoring based on reports of AIS findings or repeated instances of AIS.
    d. Assist with other AIS Pathways monitoring including pet store monitoring as needed by the WDNR, US Fish and Wildlife Service, UW Sea Grant, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), etc.
    e. Conduct at least 2 Project Riverine Early Detection (Project RED) training workshops for volunteers.
5) Coordinate the Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) watercraft inspection program:
    a. Seek volunteers to staff boat launches and educate boaters about AIS and prevention steps.
    b. Organize and coordinate at least 3 CBCW trainings to train volunteers and/or paid staff on methods to conduct boat inspections and educate boaters about the AIS prevention steps.
    c. Work with partners to apply for CBCW grants to fund additional inspectors.
6) Coordinate the implementation of the Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program in Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, and Rusk Counties:
    a. Support and expand the existing network of purple loosestrife biocontrol partners.
    b. Plan and conduct at least 1 training workshop for purple loosestrife biocontrol partners.
    c. Help identify insectaries, coordinate the collection and distribution of purple loosestrife biocontrol organisms to all interested partners, and target the release of organisms, where needed.
    d. Work with WDNR and UW Madison, Division of Extension to report infestations and track biocontrol releases in the SWIMS database.

7) Write a quarterly electronic newsletter to provide AIS information and updates on Coordinator activities/outreach to partners:
    a. Each newsletter will have, on average, two AIS-related articles.
    b. Articles from newsletter will be shared through relevant social media.
    c. Share relevant AIS articles with new and previously established partners for use in their newsletters.
    d. Submit newsletter to county partners and WDNR contacts: (Jeanne.Scherer@wisc.edu).
8) Coordinate checks on WDNR AIS signage at lake/river public access sites within Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, and Rusk Counties:
    a. Conduct inspections of at least 25 public access sites to verify WDNR AIS signage is in place and in good condition.
    b. Use WDNR-approved forms to conduct signage inspections and enter data in SWIMS.
    c. Maintain digital photographs of AIS signs that have been inspected.
    d. Install WDNR AIS signage, as needed, and per installation protocol.
    e. Work with WDNR to design additional AIS signage, as needed.
9) Provide AIS outreach and education to local partners and AIS stakeholders:
    a. Conduct AIS and Habitattitude outreach and education at local schools, events, meetings, etc.:
        i. Including, but not limited to, large public festivals, farmer's markets, presentations to local school children (when requested), fishing tournaments, Habitattitude pet surrender events, and stakeholder meetings (e.g., Conservation clubs, boating clubs, angling clubs, etc.).
        ii. AIS and Habitattitude outreach and education will be held minimally at 4 events/meetings/tournaments/etc.
    b. Network with AIS stakeholders and partners at local events and meetings.
    c. Contact at least 2 bait shops as part of the statewide Bait Shop Initiative and provide AIS outreach message and materials.
    d. Share, on average, 3 AIS related posts per month (May through October) via social media to increase AIS awareness and reinforce prevention messaging.
10) Provide technical assistance to a grantee or grant applicant for AIS prevention.
11) Determine and establish web links on County webpages to facilitate information exchange and volunteer opportunities through the LMPN and Beaver Creek Reserve.
    a. Provide links to projects such as: Citizen Lake Monitoring Network, Clean Boats Clean Waters, Project Riverine Early Detection, and Purple Loosestrife Biological Control.
    b. Provide links to partners including Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA), Beaver Creek Reserve, and active lake groups.
12) Expand Chippewa County Lakes Group mailing list to lake groups in Buffalo, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin & Rusk Counties.
    a. Utilize the mailing list to provide new AIS information, event invitations to educational AIS programs, and AIS volunteer opportunities.

13) Facilitate entry of all data into SWIMS:
    a. Train partners how to enter AIS information into SWIMS, including for CBCW, CLMN, Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol, etc.
    b. Ensure data entry into SWIMS is completed per annual reporting requirements that may include CBCW, CLMN, Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol, Snapshot Day, AIS Signage monitoring, and any incidental AIS findings.
14) Retain, for a period of six years after the end date of this agreement, all project records, including proofs of payment and proofs of purchase, showing events/tasks undertaken as part of this agreement.
    a. This shall include:
        i. Training sessions attended.
        ii. Training sessions held and name of participants attending.
        iii. Meetings with stakeholders and/or partner groups.
        iv. AIS outreach activities.
        v. Media contacts.
    b. Participate in meetings with WDNR to discuss agreement accomplishments and financial status.
15) Submit quarterly progress reports to County Partners and WDNR.
16) Submit final reimbursement request to WDNR on form provided by WDNR no later than 60 days after the end of this agreement.

G. Duties of Eau Claire County

1) To attend periodic meetings or conference calls with WDNR and Beaver Creek Reserve for the furtherance of this project.

County Allotments

Buffalo County	$10,475.52
Chippewa County	$14,770.19
Dunn County	$11,764.68
Eau Claire County	$12,361.27
Pepin County	$9,014.19
Rusk County	$13,637.06
Total	**$72,022.91**

Proposed Expenditures

AIS Coordinator Salary	$44,100.00
AIS Coordinator Fringe Benefits	$3,000.00
Salaries (Administration)	$16,000.00
Fringe Benefits (Administration)	$2,500.00
Travel	$2,000.00
Supplies & Operating Expenses	$4,422.91
Total	**$72,022.91**

H. Declaration

By affixing our signatures below, we swear that the document above accurately portrays the relationship and intent of all parties.

FOR Eau Claire County By:	FOR Beaver Creek Reserve By:
_____	_____
_____ Title:	_____ Title:
_____ Date Signed	_____ Date Signed

State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (CF/2)
PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707-7921
dnr.wi.gov

Lake Monitoring & Protection Network Grant Application

Form 8700-284L (R 6/29/21)

Notice: Use of this form is required by the Department of Natural Resources for any application filed pursuant to ch. NR 193, Wis. Adm. Code. Personal Information collected on this form, will be used for administrative purpose and may be provided to requesters to the extent required by Wisconsin's Public Records Laws [ss.19.31–19.39 Wis. Stats.] **To be considered, applications must either be submitted electronically or postmarked by November 1st.** The preferred method of application submittal is via email to DNRSurfaceWaterGrants@wisconsin.gov, using the **Submit by Email** button on this **form.**

Section 1: Accepting the County's Allocation

Who will be accepting the county's allocated funding?	Single County Allocation Amount Requested
○ County ◉ Designated Cooperative Agent(s)	12,361.27

Section 2: Applicant Information

Pre-application

County		Period Covered by This Application
Eau Claire		January 01, 2024 - December 31, 20 24
County Representative Name		**County Representative Title**
Chad Berge		Land Conservation Manager
County Rep. Phone Number (include area code)	Ext.	**County Representative E-mail Address**
(715) 839-4784		chad.berge@eauclairecounty.gov
Designated Cooperative Agent Organization(s)		**Designated Cooperative Agent Name(s)**
Beaver Creek Reserve		Erik Keisler
Designated Agent Phone Number (include area code)	Ext.	**Designated Agent E-mail Address**
(715) 877-2212		Erik@BeaverCreekReserve.org

Section 3: Network Cooperative Services within County

Eau Claire County designates **Beaver Creek Reserve** as its agent and authorizes the WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to allocate the COUNTY's share of the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network funds to **Beaver Creek Reserve** for the activities identified in **Beaver Creek Reserve**'s Duties of the Agent section of the attached agreement between **Eau Claire** County and **Beaver Creek Reserve** titled Cooperative Agreement To Satisfy Eligibility for **Beaver Creek Reserve**).

Section 4: Project Budget

Pre-application

The budget will be listed in the cooperative agreement that is included with the application materials. The budget in the cooperative agreement will be a summary of the project overall and does not need to be broken down by county.

Section 5: Attachments (check all that are included)

☒ A signed cooperative agreement between the county(ies) and designated agent including a budget for network activities

Note: The designated agent will submit an authorizing resolution. No authorizing resolution is required from the county. Only one copy of the cooperative agreement needs to be submitted when signed by all parties.

Section 6: Certification

Signature of County Representative

Date Signed

The chart below represents the anticipated Multi Discharger Varinace funds proposed by the WI Department of Natural Resources. Staff recommends moving forward with funding from the Buffalo-Whitewater and Eau Claire River Watersheds. The Lower Chippewa funds can be returned. The amount to be retained will equal $3,216.66.

HUC8	HUC 8 Name	County Name	Percent of HUC8	Funding Amount
7040003	Buffalo-Whitewater	Eau Claire	5.6%	$ 1,318.42
7050005	Lower Chippewa	Eau Claire	9.1%	$ 257.91
7050006	Eau Claire	Eau Claire	47.1%	$ 1,898.24
				$ 3,474.57

National Association of Conservation Districts

CONSERVATION INVESTMENT

Customer #: 39060

Investment Date: October 1, 2023

Eau Claire County Land Conservtion Department
721 Oxford Avenue, Suite 3344
Eau Claire, WI 54703-1601

Review your information!
Submit updates online or with your renewal

Phone: 715 - 839-6226
Email: lcd@co.eau-claire.wi.us
URL: http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/departments/departments-l-z/planning-development/
Facebook:
Twitter:
Other:

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!

This is the first invoice for NACD's 2024 fiscal year which runs October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. We hope you continue to show your support for your National Association with a Gold-Level membership contribution of $775. Complete the application form and send with payment to NACD headquarters.

Mark Masters
NACD Secretary/Treasurer

Conservation Investment FY24 (check one)

Review NACD's member benefits for each contribution level online at www.nacdnet.org

☐ Platinum ($3,001 +)	☐ Diamond ($1,776 - $3,000)	☐ Gold ($775 - $1,775)	☐ Silver ($501 - $774)	☐ Bronze ($101 - $500)	☐ Contributor ($1 - $100)

Amount Paid: _____ ☐ Installment _____ of _____ ☐ Final Payment

Payment Methods

To Pay Online (with credit card, ACH or PayPal), visit:
https://nacdnet.app.neoncrm.com/forms/fy24-membership

To Pay by Check, mail check and form to:

Check Number: _____

NACD
509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, DC 20002
Fax: 202-547-6450
Email: membership@nacdnet.org

Eau Claire COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION

Eau Claire County
Conservation Award Nomination

Conservation Award:

❑Conservation Farmer ❑Water Quality Leadership ❑Forestry/Habitat ❑Special Recognition

Nominee Name: _____

1. Provide a brief biographical description of the nominee(s). Include their conservation accomplishments, community involvement, commitment to conservation and other relevant information.

2. Describe the nominee's projects and approaches to land and resource management. Include the impact on conservation and/or management of natural resources.

3. List any other specific factors why the nominee should be given this award. Include any other activities, capabilities, innovative techniques, or outreach efforts where they have demonstrated leadership.

Lake Monitoring and Protection Network

Cooperative Agreement, 3rd Quarter Report

Written and compiled by:

Bre Klockzien

Citizen Science Center

September 2023

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

Bre Klockzien AIS Coordinator & Citizen Science Technician
S1 County Road K | Fall Creek, WI 54742 | Phone/Fax: (715) 877-2212 |
Breanne@beavercreekreserve.org

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Figure 1: Wetland Monitoring in Chippewa County. Purple loosestrife was found in about ½ acre and down the surrounding road.

Citizen Lake Monitoring Network

6/29: Sent out CLMN supplies to volunteers on Lake Holcombe

7/13: Supplied new equipment to CLMN Volunteer at Lake Eau Claire

8/8: Supported CLMN volunteers with sample shipment

8/20: SWIMS data checks for all CLMN volunteers

8/30: Checked in with all CLMN Volunteers via email

9/2: Updated CLMN volunteer information for monitoring at Lake Amacoy

9/7: Updated current monitoring sites

Clean Boats, Clean Waters

7/6: Discussed CBCW grants with Lake Altoona

8/24: Watercraft Inspectors had final presentations to their lake groups

8/27: Discussed CBCW volunteer efforts and goals for next year with Otter Lake

8:27: Discussed lake groups interest in CBCW trainings for next season

8/28: Checked all CBCW SWIMS data and tracked hours for season completion

8/28: Sent out CBCW and CLMN Grant information to all Lake Groups

9/7: Assisted with CBCW grant application for Lake Altoona

Early Detection and Monitoring Surveys

7/3: Completed early detection survey for Wolf River an South Fork Eau Claire River in Eau Claire County

8/8: Completed early detection survey for Red Cedar River, Tainter Lake, and Lake Menomin in Dunn County

8/9: Completed early detection survey for Island Lake and Clear Lake in Rusk County

9/20: Completed Early Detection Survey for Otter Lake in Chippewa County

Lake Groups

Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association

Attended LWIPA annual meetings and provided AIS education to members.

Otter Lake Booster Club

Assisted with Clean Boats, Clean Waters information and met to complete AIS survey.

Amacoy Lake Property Owners Association (ALPOA)

Met members of association and discussed AIS efforts including current management strategies, surface water grant application, and future goals.

Cornell Lake Sportsman Club

Met Lake Group and added contact information to mailing list

Island Chain of Lakes

Assisted in Purple loosestrife and SWIMS data entry to beetle release.

Eau Claire River Watershed Technical Committee

Attended meetings, discussed goals, and ongoing projects.

Outreach and Education

6/29: Discussed future events with Girl Scouts and AIS education

7/5: Met with Camp Kenwood to discuss possible future events and AIS education with campers

7/1-7/5: Conducted Site visits to multiple boat launches in Chippewa and Rusk County for Landing Blitz program

7/5: Held CBCW training event for current watercraft inspectors to assist in AIS identification

7/30: Attended Durand Youth Fishing Picnic for AIS Education

8/12: Attended Rusk County Jr Fair for AIS Education

8/12: Partnered with Flambeau River Outfitters for Bait Shop Initiative

9/19: Chippewa County Annual Meeting – Presented on CBCW, CLMN, Waterfowl Event, AIS prevention and management

Snapshot Day

8/19: Snapshot Day on Chippewa River/Dells Pond at Riverview Park in Eau Claire County

Figure 2*: Snapshot Day Volunteers Catching Rusty Crayfish in the Chippewa River*

Project Riverine Early Detection

8/23: Conducted Project RED on Chippewa River in Durand.

Purple Loosestrife Biological Control

8/10: Met with DNR to discuss beetle rearing with Beaver Creek Reserve.

8/18: Officially accepted Mass Rearing Cage for Purple loosestrife biocontrol program at Beaver Creek Reserve.

8/1-9/30 – Surveying and mapping Purple Loosestrife sites in Dunn, Chippewa, Rusk, Eau Claire, Pepin, and Buffalo Counties.

8/9: Wetland Monitoring in Chippewa County (**Figure 1**)

Signage

7/19: Completed signage checks in Rusk (7), Chippewa (5) counties.

7/24: Completed Signage checks in Dunn (5) and Eau Claire (5) counties.

Travel and Meetings

7/6	Met with Lake Altoona Association to Discuss AIS surveys, Snapshot Day, and possible CBCW grants.
7/6	Virtual Meeting for decontamination project training (DSP)
7/27	Met with Chippewa County to plan for Chippewa County Annual Lake Association meeting
8/3	Presented AIS Volunteer Opportunities to Master Naturalists
8/10	Met with DNR to discuss Purple Loosestrife Beetle Rearing
8/11	Snapshot Day Training Event and New Site Selection
8/12	Rusk County Jr Fair – Outreach Event
8/12	Met with Bait shop to discuss partnership with Bait Shop Initiative
8/13	Exotic Pet Surrender Event at Beaver Creek Reserve
8/19	Snapshot Day on Chippewa River in Eau Claire
8/28	Monthly LWSP Meeting with Chippewa County
8/29	Met with Fosters Riverview Inn for Annual meeting planning
8/31	Waterfowl hunter AIS Prevention Outreach Webinar
9/2	Amacoy Lake Association Meeting to Discuss AIS efforts, management, and surface water grant application
9/5	Eau Claire River Watershed Technical Committee Meeting
9/6	Met with Chippewa County Intern to harvest Knotweed Samples for Genetic Testing Project
9/12	Webinar on Overwintering Purple Loosestrife Plants & Beetles
9/14	Lakes and Rivers Partnership Meeting in La Crosse
9/19	Chippewa County Annual Lakes Association Meeting
9/20	AIS Early Detection Survey at Otter Lake

GLOSSARY

AIS – Aquatic invasive species

ALPOA – Amacoy Lake Property Owners Association

BCR – Beaver Creek Reserve

CBCW – Clean Boats, Clean Waters

CLMN – Citizen Lake Monitoring Network

CSC – Citizen Science Center (Beaver Creek Reserve)

LCC – Land Conservation Committee (Eau Claire County)

LCFM – Land Conservation and Forest Management (Chippewa County)

LLLPRD – Lower Long Lake Protection and Restoration District

LMPN – Lake Monitoring and Protection Network

LWIPA – Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association

Secchi disk – instrument used to measure water clarity

Station – Specified location on a waterbody with historical and/or continuous associated fieldwork

SWIMS – Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System

WBIC – Waterbody identification code

WCI – Watercraft inspector

WDNR – Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Resources on Biocontrol

North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) supports biological control as an integral part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. Biological control practitioners from across North America provide technical advice, guidance, and training on IPM, specifically targeting biological control of invasive weeds.

What is biocontrol?

There are many definitions attributed to biological control. For our purposes, we will define the biological control of weeds as the use of live natural enemies (e.g. insects, pathogens, nematodes, mites) of pests to reduce pest population levels below that which would occur in the absence of their natural enemies.

There are commonly three types of biological control recognized:

- Classical – initially small numbers of natural enemies are released in target pest areas for long-term control.
- Augmentative – large numbers of natural enemies are released to control a target pest for a short amount of time.
- Conservation – changing environmental conditions to aid in natural enemy survival.

How is biocontrol used?

For over 100 years, biological control principles have been used throughout the world as an effective, economical, and environmentally responsible way to decrease the damage caused by invasive species. Biological control agents are ideally employed for use against established weeds rather than new invaders. The effectiveness of biological control can range from highly effective, where people may use this approach and exclude other weed control measures, to failure. Most biological control systems fall somewhere between the two extremes outlined above. Where this is the case, an Integrated Weed Management (IWM) approach should be used to control the weed species of concern, with biological control as a component of the strategy (where applicable), but not the sole solution.

Biological control and the general principles of ecology mesh well together by reuniting a target pest with its natural enemy. Ecological theory can assist biological control practitioners to better predict and monitor the target invasive species and the potential effectiveness and possible risks of the biological control agents. By dividing complex ecological processes into manageable, measurable stages, it is possible to identify failures in a biological control system. This adaptive management approach will guard against repeat failures and improve the effectiveness and safety of future programs.

Is biocontrol right for you?

When biological control is successful, biocontrol agents increase in abundance until they suppress (or contribute to the suppression of) the target weed. As local target weed populations are reduced, their biological control agent populations also decline due to starvation and/or dispersal to other target weed infestations. In many biocontrol systems, there are fluctuations over time with the target weed becoming more abundant, followed by increases of its biocontrol agent, until the target weed/biocontrol agent populations stabilize at a much lower abundance. Biological control is not effective in every weed system or at every infestation. We recommend that you develop an integrated weed management program in which biological control is one of several control methods considered.

Additional Biocontrol Resources

Here are some additional resources for information on biological control specifics:

- iBiocontrol.org
- Cornell biological control program
- University of Florida biocontrol program
- 2020 NAISMA Classical Biocontrol Summit Recordings
- 2021 NAISMA Classical Biocontrol Summit Recordings
- 2022 NAISMA Classical Biocontrol Summit Recordings

MANAGING AQUATIC PLANTS IN NORTHERN WISCONSIN

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPANION DOCUMENT

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People Land Water

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PHYSICAL CONTROL[8]

In physical management, the environment of the plants is manipulated. Several physical techniques are commonly used: dredging, drawdown, benthic (lake bottom) barriers, and shading or light attenuation. Because these methods involve placing a structure on the bed of a lake and/or affect lake water level, a Chapter 30 or 31 WDNR permit is required.

Dredging removes accumulated bottom sediments that support plant growth. Dredging is usually not performed solely for aquatic plant management but to restore lakes that have been filled in with sediments, have excess nutrients, need deepening, or require removal of toxic substances (Peterson 1982). Lakes that are very shallow due to sedimentation tend to have excess plant growth. Dredging can form an area of the lake too deep for plants to grow, thus creating an area for open water use (Nichols 1984). By opening more diverse habitats and creating depth gradients, dredging may also create more diversity in the plant community (Nichols 1984). Results of dredging can be very long term. However, due to the cost, environmental impacts, and the problem of disposal, dredging should not be performed for aquatic plant management alone. It is best used as a lake remediation technique.

Drawdown, or significantly decreasing lake water levels, can be used to control nuisance plant populations. With drawdown, the water is removed to a given depth. It is best if this depth includes the entire depth range of the target species. Drawdowns need to be at least one month long to ensure thorough drying and effective removal of target plants (Cooke 1980a). In northern areas, a drawdown in the winter that will ensure freezing of sediments is also effective. Although drawdown may be effective for control of hydrilla for one to two years (Ludlow 1995), it is most commonly applied to Eurasian water milfoil (Geiger 1983; Siver et al. 1986) and other milfoils or submersed evergreen perennials (Tarver 1980). Drawdown requires a mechanism to lower water levels.

Although drawdown can be inexpensive and have long-term effects (2 or more years), it also has significant environmental effects and may interfere with use and intended function of the water body during the drawdown period. Lastly, species respond in very different manners to drawdown and responses can be inconsistent (Cooke 1980a). Drawdowns may provide an opportunity for the spread of highly weedy species, particularly annuals.

Benthic barriers, or other bottom-covering approaches, are another physical management technique. The basic idea is to cover the plants with a layer of a growth-inhibiting substance. Many materials have been used, including sheets or screens of organic, inorganic, and synthetic materials; sediments such as dredge sediment, sand, silt or clay; fly ash; and various combinations of the above materials (Cooke 1980b; Nichols 1974; Perkins 1984; Truelson 1984). The problem with synthetic sheeting is that the gases evolved from plant and sediment decomposition collect underneath and lift the barrier (Gunnison and Barko 1992). The problem with using sediments is that new plants establish on top of the added layer (Engel and Nichols 1984).

Benthic barriers will typically kill the plants under them within 1 to 2 months, after which time they may be removed (Engel 1984). Sheet color is relatively unimportant; opaque (particularly black) barriers work best, but even clear plastic barriers will work effectively (Carter et al. 1994). Sites from which barriers are removed will be rapidly re-colonized (Eichler et al. 1995). Synthetic barriers, if left in place for multi-year control, will eventually become sediment-covered and will allow colonization by plants. Benthic barriers may be best suited to small, high-intensity use areas such as docks, boat launch areas, and swimming areas. However, they are too expensive to use

[8] Information from APIS (Aquatic Plant Information System) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 2005.

over widespread areas, and heavily affect benthic communities by removing fish and invertebrate habitat. A WDNR permit would be required for a benthic barrier, and these barriers are not recommended.

Shading or light attenuation reduces the amount of light available for plant growth. Shading has been achieved by fertilization to produce algal growth; application of natural or synthetic dyes, shading fabric, or covers; and establishing shade trees (Dawson 1981, 1986; Dawson and Hallows 1983; Dawson and Kern-Hansen 1978; Jorga et al. 1982; Martin and Martin 1992; Nichols 1974). During natural or cultural eutrophication, algae growth alone can shade aquatic plants (Jones et al. 1983). Although light manipulation techniques may be useful for narrow streams or small ponds, in general, these techniques are of only limited applicability.