

## **CENTRAL MI COOPERATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT AREA**

Thursday, June 20, 2019  
Central Michigan CISMA Meeting 9 AM – 11 AM

Chippewa Nature Center  
400 S. Badour Rd.  
Midland, MI 48640

Or

**NEW NUMBER!** Number: 515-606-5187  
Access code: 333883

**Attendees:** Ashley Rockefeller, Elan Lipchitz, Erika Kemler, Mindee Goodrum, Julie Spencer, Melissa Townsend, Tom Lenon, Megan Rider, Jim Wyniemko

### **Steering Committee Agenda**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Updates from Megan
- III. Tool Crib
- IV. Partner Meeting
- V. 2017 MISGP Grant Update
- VI. 2018 MISGP Grant Update
- VII. Where we are headed – Next steps
- VIII. MISIN Reporting

**Our next meeting will be our partner meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Actions for Steering Committee/Decisions Made**

**Actions for Megan**

## I. Call to Order

## II. Updates from Megan

- Megan has been working on some materials for our booth display. She has taken some pictures of species that were in bloom and is also trying to dry some of them to have as part of our display.
- Hogweed update from email sent – Megan is working with Greg Norwood (DNR) on a possible Giant Hogweed sighting near Sanford Lake. The neighbor contacted the DNR. We have yet to get a phone number for the person but do have the address. Megan will be sending a letter as a first step. Greg has a few emails out to people that have dealt with it to see what our next steps should be.
- Megan gave a presentation at the Midland Conservation Districts Annual Meeting. This went well and she made some good connections there with people that will hopefully get more involved or at least spread the word about us.
- Megan had a booth at the CNC native plant sale. She was pleasantly surprised with how well it went. There were roughly 350 people that came to the sale and I would say  $\frac{3}{4}$  of those people came to the booth. She had a ton of great feedback. People were really interested in learning more. They would see one they knew and want to know the other ones. Some people had plants they wanted to know what it was and we talked through it to determine what it most likely was. Some people sent emails after with pictures.
- Megan had a presentation at Little Forks where one guy was really interested in doing more and maybe renting the tools. He also had some plants to ID, and thankfully they weren't invasives.
- Megan was part of a Tree Farm field day with Nia from Clare CD. They had 17 people there. She did a short presentation on invasive species and what they can do to help. She also did a short demo using the

uprooter and other hand pulling tool we have. The demo went really well and the one guy didn't want to stop pulling things. A lot of people were interested in it.

- Megan went to the AmeriCorps training that Elan put on. She did a demo with some of the hand tools again, and then they worked on removing some Autumn Olive.

### III. Updates from Others

- Tom – Discussed garlic mustard at CNC and how it has taken over a lot of areas. It is a good reminder how a species can take over if we don't watch it. If it is bad here, it can go anywhere. They are trying to catch it at the floret stage, but that can be harder.

### IV. Tool Crib

- All of the tools have mainly been purchased, other than a backpack sprayer and supplies for daubers. Megan hasn't been able to demo all of them yet, but is hoping to next week to be able to have them open to the public.
- Megan bought a bin for all of the tools and a bin for all of the PPE. Along with five gallon buckets for when people check stuff out it can go in those.
- Megan made copies and laminated them for all of the tools that people will rent out, that have the short manual on it and on the back is some tips and other safety things that I added, along with our contact information.
- The plan is to loan it out for free to partner with an MOU, with getting a copy of their credit card, and landowners or non-partners will pay the fee.
- Megan has done two demos and plans to make some demo videos for the tools to be put on our website.
- Megan created a page to be put on our website that has all the tools that are available for rent and will be published when we are ready.

- It was mentioned if taxes was included in the rental price. Megan is going to check this over with the finance person. The price on the sheet will reflect what they pay total, one way or other.

## V. Partner Meeting

- Megan created a flier and an agenda for the partner meeting.
- We discussed the agenda for the partner meeting.
  - i. Megan – made the time 10-1 since people didn't want it to long, and lunch at the end so people can leave if they want.
  - ii. Tom - suggested doing lunch outside where we do the demo with tables set up. People can eat right after or during to keep things moving and lunch not so late. He mentioned making a bullet list of what will be said under each agenda item. Megan will make this and send it out for people to look over.
  - iii. Elan - Annabelle's Own for food.
  - iv. Getting lunch donated was discussed as an option.
  - v. Megan – we have so much to spend per person based on the grant requirements for food.
  - vi. Megan got our speaker, Cheryl with the DNR, who will talk about different forest pests. Megan thought a partner talking about the partner section would be good to come from someone else. We could have one person from each type of organization talk for 5-10 mins so they can hear different views.
  - vii. Megan can mention MOU signing as a transition into the partner talk part.
  - viii. Tom – have Elan start the meeting and explain/refresh how we split and then introduce Megan.
- Megan - How do we reach these partners better? Megan will be putting the flier on Facebook and our website and emailing it to people that are on the list that she sent out. If people have people they know well and

could send it to them as well, I think it is helpful coming from different people and ones that are already involved.

- i. Elan – this can be a list that is continually added to/edited. If we know people and their contact that Megan may not or may not have access too, it would be more beneficial.

Example, a person higher up may not have time and skip over something but another co-worker may be able to see it. Had the idea of doing an open house for each county to reach the people in different areas that may not have the time to come to our partner meetings but could drop in just to meet Megan. Just like the DNR has drop ins. Megan could also go to these to make more connections with the DNR/EGLE.

- Have a partner meeting in the winter when more people may be able to come.

#### VI. 2017 MISGP grant Update

- I have spent all but a very small about of our budget for the 2017 grant, as I said above with the tool crib. I am waiting for GLLS to spend theirs. I am working on the final report, so that as soon as I get the documents I need from GLLS and the workbook back from the Kammy for the last Reimbursement, I can send it in.

#### VII. 2018 MISGP grant Update

- I have not sent in anything for this grant yet. Here is the current budget update. We have money remaining due to it being different than what was originally applied for, with me not using fringes.

#### VIII. Where we are headed – Next steps

- After our last meeting, I have been trying to look ahead and see where I think we should focus if or to get a grant for treatment. I am working on some maps to help with priority areas. I have uploaded some layers that

were available such as trails and parks. This will then be put with the species in our counties.

- I have looked through the documents I have. I don't feel like many of the previous maps had information for our counties, but I am still looking into this.

- i. Elan, look at getting date off of MISIN Treatment Tracker

- I have made contact with most of the past landowners from our counties that had treatment done. Some said they no longer think it is growing or an issue. Some still want treatment and I gave them the option of renting our knotweed injector or contracting it out, since we don't have the means right now to do it.
- I have a few thoughts on directions to go. I think taking this next year to do surveying of access sites and rivers could be a good start. This could be tied in with doing treatment of new species, outlier locations, and possibly some other priority sites. My main species in mind is Knotweed, however, I would have them look for anything at the access sites and document them. We could also do cost shares with landowners that call about their property.
- Tom – Road commission treatment – Megan look into how much it would cost to treat what is already documented by the road commissions. Maybe start with areas near water or road crossings. This could be a potential option for a grant project. We should make a list of grant options and prioritize them.
  - i. Ashley is going to get the amount for treatment estimated.
  - ii. Megan is going to follow up with this.
- Tom – go to road commissioners to do presentations about invasives. What to look for and how to report it.
  - i. Jim – would be up for doing a short workshop like this.
  - ii. Ashely – she gives papers out about invasives and MISIN but said it wouldn't hurt to have a presentation as well.

iii. Road commissions are good eyes for invasives because they are everywhere all the time.

1. Elan – Mosquito control would be good eyes for this as well.

- Do garlic mustard education with the grant we are currently under.
- Do research on Knotweed control and effectiveness of injectors.

## IX. MISIN Reporting

- We have a deliverable of 100 new reports for our grant. There is a “project” for Central Michigan CISMA that you should be able to enter yours as, as they can count toward our total.
- Melissa – look into EDD maps