

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Management

Ad Hoc Committee -- Florence County

Present: Florence County Board Supervisor, Susan Theer; Spread Eagle Chain of Lakes Association (SECOLA), Glen Johnson and Joe Buchannan; Florence County Lakes and Rivers Association (FCLARA), Cary Anderson; Lake Ellwood Association (LEA), Bill Collard; and Coordinator, Florence County Conservationist, Margie Yadro.

Meeting Notes

Invasive Species Ad Hoc Coordinator, Margie Yadro, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 in room #249 of the Florence County Courthouse.

Goal: *Provide recommendations to the Florence County Land Conservation Committee aimed at slowing the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species and reducing their environmental and economical impacts.*

1. **Zequanox Experimental Use Permit follow-up:** Yadro reported that she had recently received correspondence from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, stating that the US Geological Survey had withdrawn their application for an Experimental Use Permit for a Zequanox study on Keyes Lake.
2. **DASH EWM Treatment Results on Lake Ellwood:** Collard shared updates given by Onterra and Many Waters regarding chemical treatment history and the more recent Diver Assisted Suction Harvest system used to manage the invasive hybrid milfoil in Lake Ellwood. He also noted that their invasive species management efforts are posted on the Association's website at <http://leassoc.org>.
3. **North Lake decontamination station development:** Johnson and Buchannan informed the Committee members that SECOLA had ordered the purchase of a portable pressure wash unit suitable for use as an invasive species decontamination station at the North Lake Boat Landing on the Chain of Lakes. Johnson will contact Ann Hruska at the Dickinson Conservation District to arrange any expanded watercraft inspection time and resources necessary to complete the 2014 boating season.
4. **Increased Watercraft Inspection resources and management:** Yadro explained the cash flow issues that face the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition when working primarily with grant reimbursement projects such as Clean Boats, Clean Waters. This item will be placed on the next Ad Hoc Committee agenda for considering a 2015 watercraft inspection grant request to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
5. **Develop Goals for a county-wide Invasive Species Prevention and Management Plan:** Yadro provided copies of the County's current Invasive Species Strategic Plan that was developed in 2012 as a deliverable to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) grant project AEPP-176-09. Working from this document, Yadro will review goals and objectives, and coordinate priorities and actions with the County's Land and Water Resource Management Plan.

6. **Propose possible Invasive Species Prevention and Management funding streams:** Committee members were encouraged to attend the upcoming County Forestry & Parks Committee meeting where Boat Landing Launch Fees were listed on the agenda. Johnson and Buchanan also provided further detail into the development of a County Ordinance proposal to enforce invasive species prevention behavior. Possible revenue could be generated from launch fees or washer use.
7. **Future Agenda Items:** grant project proposals; Invasive Species Prevention and Management Plan development.
8. **Adjourn:** With all business being completed, the Committee agreed to adjourn until Yadro schedules a follow up meeting, chosen as August 20, 2014 at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully drafted,

Margie Yadro
Florence County Conservationist