

Megan Mickelson DNR Forester, MCISW Chair, Bob Micheel, Director, Monroe County Conservation
Jim Raiten Colorado State University Fort McCoy Wildlife Dept., **Tim Wilder** Fort McCoy Endangered
Species and Wildlife Dept., **Tim Steele** Landowner, **Jim and Bernie Arena** Landowners, **Howard Garves**,
MCISWG Vice Chair, Sparta TSP and Landowner, **Randy Poelma**- Environmental Science Program
Manager, Ho-Chunk Nation, Black River Falls **Mark Pfost**, Private lands Biologist USFWS Necedah,
Sharon Folcey, WI Towns Association , **Tyson Langrehr** Operations Specialist Monroe County Highway
Dept., **Scott Giraud** Landowner, **Mic Armstrong** Soil Conservation Technician, USDA NRCS and Scribe

Mickelson asked for additions to the agenda, none forthcoming

Armstrong read the minutes of the last meeting noting they were available on line at
<https://monroe.uwex.edu/agriculture/monroe-county-invasive-species-workgroup/>

Raiten summarized the Garlic Mustard (GM) field trip, (see notes above). Someone asked how high GM
grows- Jim said shoulder high in the oak woods, much smaller in pine forest.

A discussion about creating cards on each invasive we get locally (not the wildcard, something bigger
MCISWG would put together). Mickelson to look into it.

Field Day

We will not be walking the Lacrosse river trail, rather a walk around the main shelter area with
“bouquets” of invasive plants at stations along the way. Also in the flyer it could create confusion with
the bike trail of the same name. **Megan** will delete Lacrosse river trail from the flier.

5 people have signed up so far a show of hands around the room almost doubled it. **Mickelson** had
contacted the DNR outreach department and it was going on FB and possibly Twitter, along with the
DNR’s calendar of events, **Armstrong** had talked to FSA about getting it out to CRP landowners, they
thought they could and it was also going in the FSA newsletter, (it went out electronically that same
day). **Armstrong** also had email correspondence with **Ann Pearce** and information on the field day went
out in The Wisconsin First Detector Network outreach sites.

Sharon Folcey will take fliers to the Towns Association meeting 5/17/18.

Scott Giraud said Joey could use fliers for the Farmers Market. She will be setting up something to
educate other vendors about invasive plants and some sort of outreach display.

Megan Mickelson reported that **Dave Stutzman** had a crew of volunteers working on invasives in The
Tomah school forest and they were treating GM and perhaps other species. Perhaps this is the scout
troop **Ben** has been talking to?

Tim Wilder went to the Golden Sands CISMA meeting and there were only a handful there. Tim told
them Fort McCoy would not be going to more meetings and would concentrate their efforts with the
MCISWG. The group talked about their field day, no date or location yet. They plan on paying someone
to put together the paperwork (MOU, AOP etc.) that we have almost completed on our own. Tim
congratulated **Armstrong** for taking that “bull by the horns”. **Amy Thorstenson** told Tim that she hoped
we would still be able to collaborate on invasive projects in the future. **Wilder** said they would be willing
to write a letter of support they may need for their grant proposal.

Tim suggested we look at using the Challenge academy as volunteer labor for projects, once we have grants those hours may potentially be matched. There may also be opportunities for the McCoy team to share biocontrol efforts as long as the necessary permits are in hand.

Regarding grant writing: we should be looking into that now, **Bernie Arena** has experience.

- Need to set goals and missions.

Action Items

- CISMA paperwork. **Armstrong, Komiskey** will finish up MOU, strategic plan and operating plans and get out to the group for a final look over w/e 5/25. Deadline set for June 1st ready for signing.
- Prepare signage for Field day-**Wilder, Mickelson** Electronic Pineview sign message-**Wilder**
- Distribute fliers to Chambers

Bernie Arena suggested and volunteered to be Media person. **Bernie** and **Megan** will coordinate.

- Necedah Partners booth at Field day, **Pfost** will bring.
- Thought it would be good if Extension had a display- (**Megan** to contact Bill)

Megan will let us know tally of registrants by 10th June, for # buckthorn to bring for walking sticks, Food truck food prep.

Armstrong reported that the Knotweed the City sprayed with Milestone (post flower) appeared to be stone dead except for a few sprouts-would coordinate with City on follow up recommendations.

Tyson Langrehr was asked how many of the patrolmen were reporting using the Gledn app, he said just a few of them, most were not moving out of a small area assigned to them but there were managers, himself included that would be using it all around the County.

Howard Garves passed around articles on invasive plant ID (**Mark Renz**) and reporting (**Anne Pearce**) he had clipped from Country Today Newspaper. Here they are

<http://www.thecountrytoday.com/Environment/2018/04/23/div-class-libPageBodyLinebreak-Spotting-invasive-plants-common-in-southwest-Wisconsin-div.html>

<http://www.thecountrytoday.com/Environment/2018/04/23/div-class-libPageBodyLinebreak-Website-app-Great-tools-for-mapping-and-monitoring-div.html>

Armstrong passed on an article written by Kathy Stahl, one of the founders of the Lower Chippewa Partnership titled "Study plants before buying"

Mark Pfost wanted to find out more about Pampas Grass control efforts. Armstrong referred to MCISW notes 12/14/17 on the topic. Suggested Mark send in to NR 40 to have added to list for review next winter. **Armstrong** asked if anyone had seen the list of species proposed for the next go around in NR 40, no one had.

Scott Giraud wondered if Red Elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*) was considered invasive, he thought it was a native plant but in his property it was taking over, even growing thick stands under Black Walnut. **Armstrong** wanted to take a look, will contact Scott.

Field Day June 14th 9 a.m. to 3 pm

Next core meeting June 28th 2-4. Pre field trip meeting Tba



Invasive or aggressive Native?