

## Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership

### Meeting Minutes

December 4th, 2008 9am-11:30 pm US Forest Service Field Office, Durham

#### Attendees:

Kevin Lucey, nhcp  
Dave Burdick, unh  
Florence Peterson, usfs

Christine Perron, nhdot  
Rachel Johnson, unh  
Rachel Stevens, gbnerr

Katie Arey, gbnerr  
Joanne Glode, tnc

#### Guest Speakers:

Dawn Genes and Sharon Meeker of the Lamprey River Watershed Association

### CWIPP UPDATES

**Mooseplate Grant:** CWIPP submitted a joint proposal with the Seacoast Science Center and The Nature Conservancy to control invasive plant at Odiorne Point State Park and Lubberland Creek Preserve. The request was for \$45,000. On November 13, the State Conservation Committee awarded \$19,000 to the CWIPP projects. On November 21, 2008 the Department of Agriculture and the Governor chose to eliminate all general fund money from the State Conservation Committee budget retroactive to July 1. All of the Mooseplate Grants have been put on 'indefinite hold.'

**CWIPP Website:** The New Hampshire Coastal Program will host the CWIPP Website. A draft layout and content were presented to the group. Suggestions included adding links to all the partners' webpages, and additional links to: the TNC global invasive network, IPANE, NH Dept of Ag (Guide to Upland Plants booklet, State Prohibited Plants List), Midwest Invasive Plant Network, Weed.org, NHDOT Best Management Practices.

**NH Coastal Program Grants Program:** The New Hampshire Coastal Program (NHCP) at the Department of Environmental Services is currently accepting applications for its 2009 competitive grant round. Through federal funding, NHCP enables projects that address coastal resources, like water quality protection, education and public access. Grants are offered on a competitive basis to eligible applicants, and at least a one to one match is required. No more than \$40,000 will be awarded to any construction or land acquisition project, and no more than \$30,000 will be awarded for any planning or management project. <http://des.nh.gov/media/pr/documents/081126.pdf>

**Funding Status:** What are the lessons learned from the past year of seeking funds for CWIPP Objectives?

**Pulling Together Grant:** Our next proposal needs to show more maturity as an organization, prove our past success, and create a proposal that will have on the ground results. **Action:** Florence to seek out how to tailor our proposal to fit their needs. Kevin to find out the 2009 deadline.

**NRCS:** find projects and initiatives that fit their needs and objectives

**NOAA:** Upland invasive plant projects often don't meet NMFS Trust Resources criteria. Project must be specific to estuarine function for NOAA/NMFS monies. We could pursue other NOAA dollars that have different criteria.

**US Forest Service.** A pre-proposal was submitted in August and \$10,000 was made available to CWIPP. The Partnership needs to figure out how to spend the money and specify to USFS before the 2009 fire season begins. Rachel Stevens stated that our biggest need is capacity building and that having a staff person could take us past our current threshold. And that hiring an hourly contractor could be our best solution. 10K could buy 500 hours at \$20/hr. **Action:** Rachel will speak with the Great Bay Stewards as a means to hiring a contractor with low overhead. **Action:** Kevin and Florence to work on a revised proposal

**SPEAKER: Dawn Genes and Sharon Meeker of the Lamprey River Watershed Association-  
“Pilot Project to Control Knotweed along the Wild and Scenic Lamprey River”**

Dawn presented on LWRA’s efforts to control knotweed along the Lamprey River. Dawn spoke about their initial efforts to control knotweed manually. They have now secured necessary permits from NHDES and NH Pesticide Board and have secured funds from the NH Department of Agriculture IPM grants program. In addition to eradicating knotweed populations, the project will also determine most effective control techniques through paired experimental project design.

**Action:** The LWRA presentation will be posted on the NHDES website as soon as the website is online. Target date January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Follow-up Discussion:

Regarding the large Knotweed population on Route 101 in between exit 4 and 5. Dawn Genes asked how the LWRA can work with NHDOT to eradicate that population. Christine mentioned that if the section of highway is on the State’s 10 year list than LWRA can request that Knotweed control be incorporated into the plan. Otherwise the NHDOT does not have resources to eradicate that population. The other alternative suggested by Christine was to fund raise for the project and bring NHDOT in as a Partner.

**CWIPP- Winter Invasive Plant Speaker Series:**

Lori Sommers and Darlene Forst of the NHDES Wetlands Bureau are confirmed for the January 8th meeting. They will talk about navigating the NHDES Wetlands and Shoreland Protection Act permitting process. David Rousseau of the NH Dept of Agriculture is confirmed for March 5th and will speak about Navigating NH Dept of Ag. Herbicide Permitting.

The schedule for the remainder of the speaker series will be:

CWIPP Meeting: 9-10:30

Speaker Series: 10:30~12

Other speakers to consider are Les Merhoff- (ipane), Chris Matrick (usfs), Kyle Lombard (nh dred), and Cynthia Betner (ma, usfws). **Action:** Florence will follow up with Les and Chris to see if they are available to speak at either the February or April meeting. **Action:** Once the Speakers are confirmed, Kevin will create a flier to announce the speaker series, which will be distributed to the Partnership. The announcement will be extended further to include Watershed Groups and area Conservation Commission members.

**Developing Species Specific Control Techniques**

The Control, Treatment and Disposal Subcommittee has developed a standardized format for conveying control information, which was presented to the group for comment. Specific recommendations were given to Christine Perron and will be incorporated into future revisions. The focus plants for now are loosestrife, phragmites, pepperweed, buckthorn, and knotweed. Members of the Subcommittee have already compiled preliminary information for each of the aforementioned plants. The NRCS SCA intern can potentially begin working on this initiative after the first of the year. **Action:** Rachel Johnson and Katie Arey have kindly offered to populate the standardized format with the existing compiled information.