

**Wisconsin Recreation Best Management Practices for Invasive Species  
Advisory Committee  
Monday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008  
Online Conference Call  
9am to 11am**

**Meeting Participants**

Participant	Organization
Gary Werner	Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter
Hank Wozniel	WI ATV Association
John Jones	WI Donkey & Mule Society
Kelly Kearns	WDNR-Endangered Resources
Kimberly Currie	WDNR-Parks & Recreation
Kris Tiles	UW-Extension
Dean Bowe	WI County Forests Association
Rolf Utegaard	Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin
Dave Newman	Association Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs
Tom Boos	WDNR- Forestry Science
Bernie Williams	WDNR- Forestry & Recreation
Brigit Brown	WDNR- State Trails Coordinator
Rob McConnell	ORV Council
Tim Krueger	Wisconsin 4-Wheel Drive Association
Dave Benish	WDNR-Recreation & Camping

**1. Administration**

Approval of June 17<sup>th</sup>, meeting minutes.

Kevin Thusius who represents the Pedestrian spoke was unable to attend the meeting. He had emailed Bernie earlier and agreed with the Pedestrian spoke, and hopes to comment on Land Management when the opportunity presents itself. Bill Duncanson who represents Land Management was also unable to attend; we did not review the Land Management draft.

Gary and Kelly discussed the need for a universal BMP to address the proper identification of invasive species. Kelly volunteered to draft language to resolve concerns about identification and knowledge when gathering natural foods, or removing invasive plants.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Kelly will draft a new universal BMP addressing invasive plant identification.

**Spoke Update Reports**

**Hunters, Trappers and Anglers (Dean Bowe)**

Dean has changed the BMP prefix to reflect the addition of Anglers. The new prefix will now read HTA and has been changed throughout the document. Both Dean and Bernie drafted new language to address Anglers in the introduction, and it was decided that they should be joined together as a new paragraph.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will merge the new language together to form a more concise statement addressing Anglers

Bernie drafted HTA-8 to address the concern of live bait worms, the changes made to the BMP are reflected below.

HT-8 Dispose of unused live bait (worms). ~~in garbage container or your home compost.~~

Considerations:

- a. If you use earthworms as fishing bait, throw any unused earthworms in the trash, not in the water or on the land (it is illegal to knowingly introduce any exotic species!).
- b. Do not transport leaves, mulch, compost or soil from one place to another unless you are confident that there are no earthworms or their cocoons present.
- e. ~~If you use ATV's or other vehicles with tread that can hold soil, be sure to wash all soil from tire treads before transporting the vehicle from one place to another.~~

There was further discussion on developing a more precise call-out box, along with moving HTA-8, consideration B to Land Management.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will develop a new call-out box on bait worms
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will draft further language on bait worms to describe proper disposal, and explain the difference between infested and non-infested lands.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will format the language so it can be used within the Land Management BMPs as well.
- ✓ **Decision:** The committee agreed to changes made to the draft.

## Camping

With the camping BMPs drafted, the committee and Dave Benish who heads up camping for the DNR state parks we were able to make the necessary edits. The committee and Dave agreed to the introduction, and decided a sentence be added to (Invasive species and camping) to highlight that invasive species are often first introduced at campsites.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will draft language to reflect invasive species and their introduction at campsites.

Under the general guidance it was decided that there would need to be clarification on before visiting a campsite, and when leaving a campsite. Within general guidance it was also decided to address the 50 mile rule, and expand on the guidance for firewood.

- ✓ **Decision:** The issue of firewood will need to be streamlined into its own BMP to reduce confusion and redundancy within the body of the camping BMPs.
- ✓ **Decision:** The reference to Wisconsin State Parks will be removed from the document.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will draft a new BMP to address only firewood.

Under BMP C-1 ~~Never transport firewood into a recreational camp ground, or private camping lands.~~ Was removed from the document.

Under BMP C-1 Consideration C, it was decided to remove (do not) and streamline the document to make it more consistent throughout.

Under BMP C-2 We removed, ~~Leave unburned firewood at the campsite.~~

We also removed Consideration B, ~~Refrain from washing any garments within the campsite grounds.~~

Under BMP C-3 Under BMP C-3 it was decided to Check with local recommendations/considerations regarding transporting firewood.

We will merge C-1 and 3, part of 2

Under BMP C-4: ~~While hiking away from your campground or off trail do not pick plants, even if plant harvesting is allowed on the property.~~ Was removed, and it was decided to keep, (Do not pick plants)

Under BMP C-6: The following changes were made.

Follow guidelines for bringing domestic animals into ~~forested~~ recreational areas (when camping). ~~Responsible pet owners and their pets are welcome in Wisconsin State Parks~~  
The committee decided that BMP C-4 and C-5 should be placed in the reverse order, and for the removal of camping Etiquette from the document, and the closing paragraph be inserted within the body of the introduction.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will format a call-out box to address the various means of camping; i.e., forest, backcountry, undesignated, along with campgrounds and campsites.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will clarify the call-out box on edible fruits and where harvesting may take place.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will develop a BMP about controlling invasive species within campgrounds, by reporting, volunteering, and spreading the word.
- ✓ **Decision:** A revised Camping BMP will be sent to the committee after Bernie has completed the changes.

## **Bicycling**

Brigit provided the new draft of the bicycling BMPs and aside from a few changes the committee agreed on the final draft.

Brigit reworked the introduction to read;

A bicycle is a human-powered, pedal driven vehicle. There are a wide variety of bicycling-based activities. Many, but not all, are types of recreation. These recommendations apply to both recreation (for example: mountain biking or off-road biking, bicycle touring, road biking, cyclocross (cross-country bicycle racing in open, rough terrain with riders often forced to dismount and carry their bicycle), and BMX (bicycle motocross)) and non-recreation (for example: bicycle commuting, law enforcement patrolling, and deliveries) uses of bicycles, as well as unicycles, tricycles, and quadracycles (one, three, and four wheels, respectively), which are not strictly bicycles.

There was also a discussion on including unicycle and tricycles...as well, and it was decided to add them at the end of the BMPs.

### Within BMP B-1, Consideration B,

Pay attention to illustrated signage at infested areas and trailheads, e.g. This is a picture of garlic mustard; you will see it along the west side of the trail... it was decided to add this to all spoke BMPs.

### Under BMP B-5, Consideration C,

Use reporting forms ~~if they are available at trailheads.~~

It was decided that this consideration should be applied to all other spokes as well.

### Under BMP B-6, Considerations B & C

It was decided to reverse their order.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will insert consideration B; regarding illustrated signage into all spoke BMPs
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will apply consideration C; regarding forms to all spoke BMPs.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Brigit will rework the introduction of bicycling.

## **Animals**

Thought the animal BMPs are not yet complete we are moving forward and hope to have a completed draft available for the committee within a week or two.

- ✓ Assignment: Bernie will continue the drafting of Animals and speak with Mindy on the updates.
- ✓ Assignment: John Jones will also contact Mindy and check on the latest developments on the draft.

John Jones will be attending a horse council meeting this coming Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, and will share with the members the update on the animal spoke. With this discussion, the subject of (weed free hay and bedding) was brought up. To address this issue, Kelly sighted various farms that provide this product, and stressed that it is an option, not a regulation. John said he would provide the horse community with the information on weed free hay and bedding, if he received the information prior to the meeting. Kelly, Tom, and Bernie agreed to email John the material at the end of the meeting.

- ✓ **Assignment:** Kelly would draft an email for John and Mindy to be sent following the meeting.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie would email all the contact information and material on weed free hay and bedding at the end of the meeting.
- ✓ **Assignment:** Bernie will follow up with John after the horse council meeting, and complete the Animal BMPs with Mindy and John.

### **New Business**

With the BMPs nearing a format for public audiences, Bernie was given permission to edit them for grammar and consistency. The revised drafts will be available to the committee prior to our next meet in Wausau.

- ✓ **Decision:** Land Management will be meeting Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am to noon at UW Hancock Station.
- ✓ **Decision:** The Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> in Wausau to complete Phase 1, and begin work on Phase II.

**HOMEWORK:** Please contact Bernie Williams with any concerns, suggestions, or edits to the drafts.