

# Wisconsin Recreation Best Management Practices for Invasive Species

## Advisory Committee

Marathon County – UW-Extension Office, Wausau

October 29, 2008

### MEMBER MINUTES

#### *Meeting Participants*

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Bill Duncanson	WI Park & Recreation Association
Evan Miller	Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest
Mindy Krolick	Wisconsin State Horse Council
Luana Schneider	Wisconsin 4-Wheel Drive Association
John Jones	WI Donkey & Mule Society
Kelly Kearns	WDNR Endangered Resources
Kimberly Currie	WDNR Parks & Recreation
Kris Tiles	UW-Extension
Tom Boos	WDNR Division of Forestry Science
Bryn Sriver	WDNR Division of Forestry Science
Rolf Utegaard	Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin
Hank Wozniel	Wisconsin ATV Association
Bernie Williams	WDNR- Forestry Science & Recreation
Rob McConnell	ORV Council
Harold Schmidt	Wisconsin Off-Road Bicycling Association
Brigit Brown	WDNR Parks & Recreation
Sherry Klosiewski	WDNR Parks & Recreation
Dave Newman	Association of WI Snowmobile Clubs

➤ **Assignment:**    ✓ **Decision:**

#### **Advisory Committee Check in**

Kris welcomes everyone and briefly explains the goal behind today's meeting by emphasizing the need to work as a group and refrain from wordsmithing. Prior to the meeting, the committee received an email with detailed instructions on preparing for the meeting, and a grid explaining the placement of the Universal BMPs within each spoke. Through an analysis of the individual drafts Tom and Bernie identified the universal BMPs within each draft, as well as individualized BMPs per activity. As well as the absence of an essential BMP that should be inserted within each BMP. The question remaining is whether or not the universal BMPs be adjusted to characterize each spoke, or if additional Universal BMPs be added?

By referencing the comparison table we have identified the language changes within each spoke, and determining what BMPs are unique within the universals. It is also important

that the Committee consider possible changes to each draft to reflect consistency as a whole throughout the documents.

### **New Universal BMP with considerations:**

Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.

#### **Considerations:**

- a. Place materials in a bag and send to landfill, where possible.
  - b. Materials may be composted but only if compost pile temperature reaches very high temperatures and the finished compost can be monitored for weed emergence.
  - c. Materials may be disposed of in piles. Locate the pile in an area that facilitates easy monitoring and control if infestations spread from the pile.
  - d. Materials may be burned. Locate the burn pile in an area that facilitates easy monitoring and control if infestations spread from the pile.
  - e. When chipping ash logs or brush, be sure the chip size is less than ½- inch.
- Decision:** The Advisory Committee approves the new universal BMP and agrees it be inserted within the body of each spoke.

### ***BMP Spoke review and approval***

#### **Motorized Recreation (Hank Wozniel)**

Tom reminded the committee to consider the universals that have been inserted into the document as a comparison against the spoke BMPs.

Changes were made to the opening of the document with the removal of:

- ~~Significant challenges are facing our trails and quality of outdoor recreation in Wisconsin.~~ Now reads: Motorized recreationists face the possibility of losing land access due to the concern of the spreading of invasive plants.
- ~~BMP M-1: Learn to recognize invasive plants and know which plant parts to be concerned about.~~ Now reads: Learn to recognize invasive species common to the areas where you enjoy recreational activities.
- BMP M-2: Considerations B. & D. have been removed.
- BMP M-3: Inspect and clean your vehicle, clothing, footwear, and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after recreating. Carefully dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning. Now reads: Inspect and clean hair, clothing, footwear, and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after recreating.
- Universal BMP 4. Is now M-4
- Universal BMP 5. is now M-5
- BMP M-6. Now reads: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
- BMP M-7. Now reads: Stay on designated trails, roads, and other developed areas.
- BMP M-8. Now reads: When off-trail, avoid areas that appear to be infested with invasive species; “when in doubt, stay out!”
- BMP M-9. Now reads: Report infestations of invasive species to the appropriate land manager or property owner.
- BMP M-10. Now reads: Volunteer to help control invasive species.

- BMP M-11. *Now reads*: Minimize soil displacement from the tread and soil degradation outside the tread; disturbed soils may create favorable conditions for the establishment and spread of invasive plants.
- BMP M-12. *Has been added with considerations*: When feasible, incorporate invasive species prevention into planning for special events.
- BMP M-13: *Now reads*: Spread the word – help educate others about invasive species and their effects on the environment, economy, and recreational opportunities.

The changes made to the motorized spoke reflect the consistency that Tom hopes to see within each spoke. The concept and ideas have remained the same.

√ *Decision*: Hank agrees with the changes in format that better reflect the consistency of the Universal BMPs.

√ *Decision*: The Advisory Committee agrees with the changes.

### **Animals (Mindy Krolick)**

Mindy emphasized the intention of the animals group was to keep it as simple as possible, while still addressing the impact of invasive species. Tom agreed, though stressed that by inserting the Universals within the document the committee would have a better idea of the gaps.

Though several changes were made to the document, Mindy was not comfortable approving them without first speaking to the other individuals that helped draft the document.

Within the document the wording of ~~companion animals~~ and ~~pets~~ was removed. When referring to either the replacement word is Animal.

- BMP A-1. *Has been added with considerations*: Learn to recognize invasive species common to the areas where you enjoy outdoor recreational activities.
- BMP A-2. *Has been added with considerations*: Wear clothing and footwear that are not “seed-friendly.”
- BMP A-3. *Formerly A-1 moved to A-3 for consistency*: Inspect and clean hair, clothing, footwear and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after recreating.
- BMP A-4. *Has been added with considerations*: Prior to moving equipment, vehicles, and trailers onto and off of an activity area, spray, scrape, or brush soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, to minimize the risk of transporting soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates.
- BMP A-5. *Has been added with considerations*: Inspect and remove soil, plant parts and seeds from the coat and feet of animals and their clothing/gear before and after recreating.
- BMP A-6. *Has been added with considerations*: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates.
- BMP A-7. *Now reads*: Stay on designated trails, roads, and other developed areas and observe animal restraint rules.
- BMP A-8. *Now reads*: When off-trail, avoid areas that appear to be infested with invasive species; “when in doubt, stay out!”
- BMP A-9. *Now reads*: Report infestations of invasive species to the appropriate land manager or property owner.

- BMP A-10. Now reads: Volunteer to help control invasive species.
- BMP A-11. Now reads: Follow the property guidelines for all animal waste disposal.
- BMP A-12. Now reads: When feasible, incorporate invasive species prevention into planning for special events.
- BMP A-13. Now reads: Spread the word – help educate others about invasive species and their effects on our environment, economy, and recreational opportunities.

Changes reflect an additional 8 BMPs to the Animal draft as well as the new Universal BMP that will be added to all the spokes: **Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates.**

➤ **Assignment**: Mindy Krolick will share the changes with the Animal spoke and provide comments and recommendations with the AC.

√ **Decision**: The committee agrees with the changes, though will wait for Mindy to finalize the draft.

### **Bicycles (Brigit Brown & Harold Schmidt)**

Harold and Brigit both worked on the Bicycle draft and have expressed concerns about redundancy with the addition of the Universals. Though Tom, Sherry, and Bernie point to consistency within the document, and ask that each BMP be reviewed prior to making a final decision.

- BMP B-1: Learn to recognize invasive plants ~~and know which plant parts to be concerned about~~, species common to the areas where you enjoy outdoor recreational activities. Now reads: Learn to recognize invasive species common to the areas where you enjoy outdoor recreational activities.
- BMP B-2: Reads: Wear clothing and footwear that are not “seed-friendly.”
- BMP B-3: Inspect and clean your ~~bike~~, clothing, footwear, and ~~gear before leaving home, after your ride, and when moving between areas~~ for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before entering and upon leaving riding areas. ~~Carefully dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.~~ Now reads: Inspect and clean hair, clothing, footwear and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after recreating.
- BMP B-4: Has been added with considerations: Prior to moving bicycles, equipment, vehicles, and trailers onto and off of an activity area, spray, scrape or brush soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, to minimize the risk of transporting soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates.
- BMP B-5: Has been added with considerations: Inspect and remove soil, plant parts and seeds from the coat and feet of animals and their clothing/gear before and after recreating.
- BMP B-6: Has been added with considerations: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
- BMP B-7: Formerly B-4: Stay on managed or established and designated trails. Now reads: Stay on established and designated trails, roads, and other developed areas.
- BMP B-8: Has been added with considerations: When off-trail, avoid areas that appear to be infested with invasive species; “when in doubt, stay out!”

- BMP B-9: Formerly B-5 Reads: Report infestations of invasive species to the appropriate land manager or property owner.
- BMP B-10: Formerly B-7 Reads: Volunteer to help control invasive species.
- BMP B-11: Has been added with considerations: When feasible, incorporate invasive species prevention into planning for special events.
- BMP B-12: Formerly B-9 Reads: Spread the word - help educate others, about invasive species and their effects on our environment, economy, and recreational opportunities.

Several changes in the format and structure of the Bicycling BMPs were initiated to streamline the objectives and correlate it with the other recreation spokes.

√ **Decision:** The Committee agreed to the changes.

√ **Decision:** Brigit and Harold accept the changes with the concession that the same changes are made in all the other spokes.

√ **Decision:** The Committee agrees.

### **Pedestrian (Tom, Sherry & Bernie speak for Kevin Thusius)**

Kevin Thusius was unable to attend the meeting. Changes made to the Pedestrian draft were minimal, reflected mostly in organizing the BMPs. All changes made will be sent to Kevin and approved by the committee.

- BMP P-1: Reads: Learn to recognize invasive species common to the areas where you enjoy outdoor recreational activities.
- BMP P-2: Formerly BMP P-3 Reads: Wear clothing and footwear that are not “seed-friendly.”
- BMP P-3: Formerly BMP P-2 Reads: Inspect and clean hair, clothing, footwear, and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after recreating.
- BMP P-4: Formerly BMP P-8 Reads: Prior to moving equipment such as strollers, wheelchairs, etc. onto and off of an activity areas, spray, scrape, or brush soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, to minimize the risk of transporting soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates.
- BMP P-5: Formerly BMP P-7 Reads: Inspect and remove soil, plant parts, and seeds, from the coat and feet of animals and their clothing/gear before and after recreating.
- BMP P-6: Has been added with considerations: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
- BMP P-7: Formerly BMP P-5 Reads: Stay on designated trails, roads, and other developed areas.
- BMP P-8: Formerly BMP P-4 Reads: When off-trail, avoid areas that appear to be infested with invasive species; “when in doubt, stay out!”
- BMP P-9: Formerly BMP P-10 Reads: Report infestations of invasive species to the appropriate land manager or property owner.
- BMP P-10: Formerly BMP P-11 Reads: Volunteer to help control invasive species.
- BMP P-11: Formerly BMP P-6 and Unique to the Pedestrian and Camping BMPs Reads: Unless gathering natural foods or other permitted material, don’t pick plants.

- BMP P-12: *Formerly BMP P-9 Reads*: When feasible, incorporate invasive species prevention into planning for special events such as cross-country races, organized hikes/walks, ski events, and other occasions.
- BMP P-13: *Has been added with considerations*: Spread the word – help educate others about invasive species and their effects on our environment, economy, and recreational opportunities

Very little was changed within the Pedestrian draft aside from formatting the BMPs to follow the order of the Universals.

√ **Decision**: The Committee agrees to the changes.

➤ **Assignment**: Bernie will contact Kevin after the meeting and share changes and comments with him.

### **Camping (Sherry Klosiewski)**

Changes to the Camping BMPs were minimal, consistency in format and additional BMPs were included.

- BMP C-1: *Has been added with considerations*: Learn to recognize invasive species common to the areas where you enjoy outdoor recreational activities.
- BMP C-2: *Has been added with considerations*: Wear clothing and footwear that are not “seed-friendly.”
- BMP C-3: *Formerly BMP C-1 Reads*: Inspect and clean hair, clothing, footwear, and gear for soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates before and after recreating.
- BMP C-4: *Has been added with considerations*: Prior to moving equipment, vehicles, and trailers onto and off of an activity area, spray, scrape or brush soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, to minimize the risk of transporting soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates.
- BMP C-5: *Formerly BMP C-2 Reads*: Inspect and remove soil, plant parts, and seeds, from the coat and feet of animals and their clothing/gear before and after recreating.
- BMP C-6: *Has been added with considerations*: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
- BMP C-7: *Formerly C-5 Reads*: Stay on designated camping areas, tent pads, roads, and trails.
- BMP C-8: *Has been added with considerations*: When off-trail, avoid areas that appear to be infested with invasive species; “when in doubt, stay out!”
- BMP C-9: *Has been added with considerations*: Report infestations of invasive species to the appropriate land manager or property owner.
- BMP C-10: *Has been added with considerations*: Volunteer to help control invasive species.
- BMP C-11: *Has been added with considerations*: When feasible, incorporate invasive species prevention into planning for special events.
- BMP C-12: *Has been added with considerations*: Spread the word – help educate others about invasive species and their effects on our environment, economy, and recreational opportunities.
- BMP C-13: *Formerly C-3 has been changed removing the 50 mile requirement and now reads*: Do not transport firewood.

- BMP C-14: Formerly BMP C-4 and **Unique to the Camping and Pedestrian BMPs Reads**: Unless gathering natural foods or other permitted material, don't pick plants.
- BMP C-15: Formerly C-6 Reads: Follow guidelines for bringing animals into recreational areas.
- √ **Decision**: The committee and Sherry agree to the changes and additions to the Camping BMPs.

### **Hunters, Trappers, and Anglers (Tom & Bernie speak for Dean Bowe)**

Dean Bowe was unable to attend the meeting, Tom and Bernie spoke on his behalf. The Hunting draft had included most of the Universal BMPs so very little was added, changes made reflect consistency.

- BMP HTA-1: Reads: Learn to recognize invasive species common to the areas where you enjoy outdoor recreational activities.
- BMP HTA-2: Reads: Wear clothing and footwear that are not “seed friendly.”
- BMP HTA-3 Formerly HTA-4 Reads: Inspect and clean hair, clothing, footwear, and gear for soil, seeds, plant parts, and invertebrates, before and after recreating.
- BMP HTA-4 Formerly HTA-3 Reads: Prior to moving equipment, vehicles or trailers onto or off of an activity area, spray, scrape, or brush soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, to minimize the risk of transporting soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates.
- BMP HTA-5: Reads: Inspect and remove soil, plant parts, and seeds from the coat and feet of animals (i.e. hunting dogs) before and after recreating.
- BMP HTA-6: Has been added with considerations: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
- BMP HTA-7: Formerly HTA-6 Reads: Stay on designated trails, roads, and other developed areas with motorized vehicles.
- BMP HTA-8: Formerly HTA-7 Reads: When off trail, avoid areas that appear to be infested with invasive species; “When in doubt, stay out!”
- BMP HTA-9: Reads: Report infestations of invasive species to the appropriate land manager or property owner.
- BMP HTA-10: Has been added with considerations: Volunteer to help control invasive species.
- BMP HTA-11: Formerly HTA-8 Reads: Dispose of unused live bait (worms) in garbage container.
- BMP HTA-12: Has been added with considerations: When feasible, incorporate invasive species prevention into planning for special events.
- BMP HTA-13: Has been added: Spread the word – help educate others about invasive species and their effects on our environment, economy, and recreational opportunities.
- √ **Decision**: The committee agrees to the formatting changes within the draft.
- **Assignment**: Bernie will contact Dean after the meeting and share the changes.

## **Land Management (Bill Duncanson)**

The largest of the spoke groups, the Land management draft has been reworked several times. Few changes were made, as consistency has been a key focus for the group.

- BMP LM-1: Reads: Assess the extent of invasive species on and near the property by scouting, locating, and documenting infestations.
  - BMP LM-2: Reads: Develop a prioritized action plan for managing invasive species based on threats to the property and feasibility of control.
  - BMP LM-3: Reads: In planning for all activities on the property, work to limit the potential introduction and spread of invasive species.
  - BMP LM-4: Reads: Assess current available resources and seek new resources to control invasive species spread.
  - BMP LM-5: Reads: Ensure that invasive species control treatments are applied safely and within the appropriate time window.
  - BMP LM-6: Reads: Take steps to minimize the movement of invasive species to non-infested areas during operations and management activities along corridors such as roads, fire breaks; and waterways.
  - BMP LM-7: Now reads: Prior to relocating equipment, vehicles, and trailers, remove and appropriately dispose of soil and debris from exterior surfaces, to the extent practical, minimizing the risk of transporting soils, seeds, plant parts, or invertebrates.
  - BMP LM-8: Has been added with considerations: Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning.
  - BMP LM-9: Formerly BMP LM-8 Reads: Consider the likely response of invasive species when prescribing land management activities that result in disturbance such as soil, increased sunlight, fire, etc.
  - BMP LM-10: Formerly BMP LM-9 Reads: Ensure; to the extent practical, that construction and maintenance materials (mulch, gravel, topsoil, etc.) are free of invasive species.
  - BMP LM-11: Formerly BMP LM-10 Reads: Quickly revegetate disturbed soils; whenever possible, promote and retain native vegetation.
  - BMP LM-12: Formerly BMP LM-11 Reads: Monitor each site following management activities; determine necessary treatments based on presence of invasive species.
  - BMP LM-13: Formerly BMP LM-12 Reads: Provide training in identification and control of known invasive species to employees, contractors, users, and volunteers.
  - BMP LM-14: Formerly BMP LM-13 Reads: Use existing web sites to inform and educate the general public in the area about common invasive species, their impacts, and ways to prevent their introduction and spread.
  - BMP LM-15: Formerly BMP LM-14 Reads: Post invasive species messages and prevention strategies at prominent locations on the property; provide informational materials directly to recreational users.
- ✓ **Decision**: The Committee agrees to the changes.
- **Assignment**: Bernie will share the comments on Land Management with Kevin.

## **Discussion on Phase 1 of the Recreation BMPs**

Upon completing the reviews of the individual spokes, it was decided that the committee be given a chance to review the reformatted drafts after Bernie made the changes.



√ **Decision:** Bernie will complete changes to the draft BMPs by November 15<sup>th</sup> and send the revised versions out to the committee for final approval.

The committee was asked about including an introduction, appendix, references, recognition, etc.

√ **Decision:** The committee agreed these should be included in the document.

Tom reiterated to the committee that with the change in context, the actual documents are very close to being done. With this in mind it important that the committee come to a consensus on how we approach public comment. By identifying our purpose and goal we can proceed by utilizing the user groups to share the BMPs with their constituents and so forth. We can also explore the option of web comments, and centralized emails, and focus groups.

Again, the approach being that these BMPs are voluntary, and reasonable. With this in mind public comments are a way to check and make sure we haven't overlooked something.

√ **Decision:** Tom and Bernie will create a master-list of email addresses to target user groups.

√ **Decision:** Kris will speak to Jake an evaluation specialist to provide feedback on seeking public comment.

√ **Decision:** The Committee has agreed to a tentative timeline, though is subject to change by the ability of FILT to meet.

√ **Decision:** *Tentative Timeline*

- *November 15<sup>th</sup> revisions to draft BMPs complete.*
- *December 1<sup>st</sup> First wave of emails is sent to user groups*
- *January 3<sup>rd</sup> 09, Second wave of emails is sent*
- *January 30<sup>th</sup> 09, Last day to provide comments on the recreational BMPs*
- *February 24<sup>th</sup> Advisory Committee will meet at Hancock Agriculture Station or via a Live-Meeting.*

➤ **Assignment:** Bernie will compile public comments and send them to the Committee by February 13<sup>th</sup> 09.

During this time there will have been a press release in mid December announcing public comment is being sought for the recreational BMPs, along with mailed surveys sent to selected user groups.

### **Who is interested in staying involved?**

Continued involvement of the user groups is requested as we approach Phase II of the BMPs. The committee overwhelmingly agreed that they wished to remain at the table and would welcome additional individuals who may be interested.

Meeting Adjourn.