

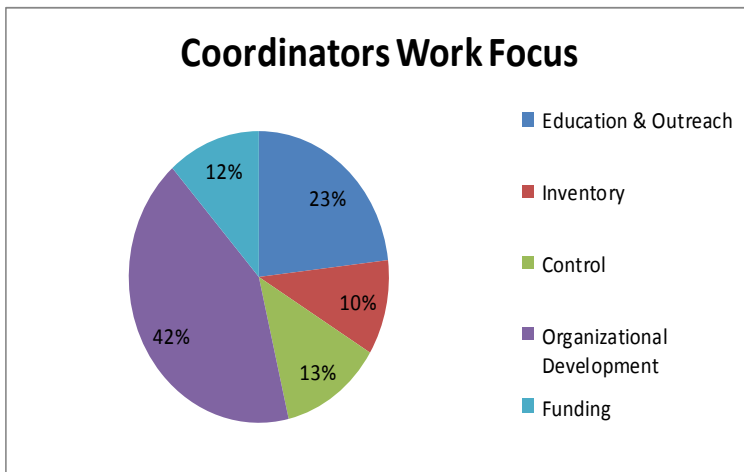


Coordinator's Monthly Report: 2015 Review

Serving Langlade, Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano counties

Summary

2015 was a year filled with successes in many categories for TIP. In total, the TIP Coordinator worked a total of 190 days. These days were spent doing a variety of tasks relating to invasive species education & outreach, inventory, control, organizational development, and funding (see chart for breakdown). Each of these categories are covered in their respective sections in this newsletter.



This chart shows the percent of the coordinator's time spent on each issue in 2015.

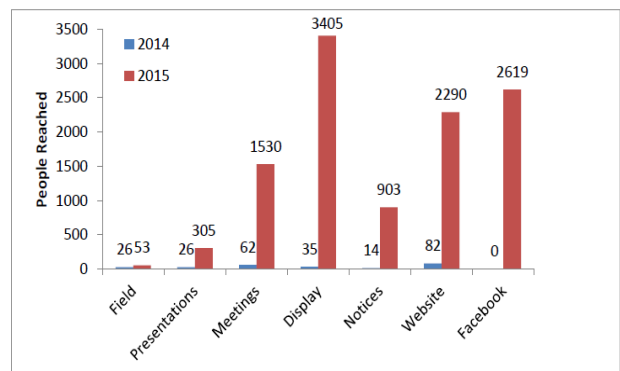
We will continue working hard to keep improving all aspects of TIP in 2016. Some of our 2016 goals include reaching 12,000 people, inventorying 1,000 populations of invasive species, treating 100 acres for invasive species, and securing some funding for 2017 & 2018. All of these goals are highly variable as to the exact details at the moment as we seek partner input, await the results of several grant proposals we have submitted.

Education & Outreach

2015 Education & Outreach Summary

For many reasons, 2015* (11,105 people, 98 events) was a much better year for education & outreach than 2014 (245 people, 19 events). The two biggest individual influencers of the change in numbers were TIP's Facebook page (new in 2015) and our increased efforts to provide informational displays, such as radio appearances and booths at events. The category TIP improved on the least was Field Days which includes things such as field trainings and workshops.

* all 2015 numbers are approximate and may increase.

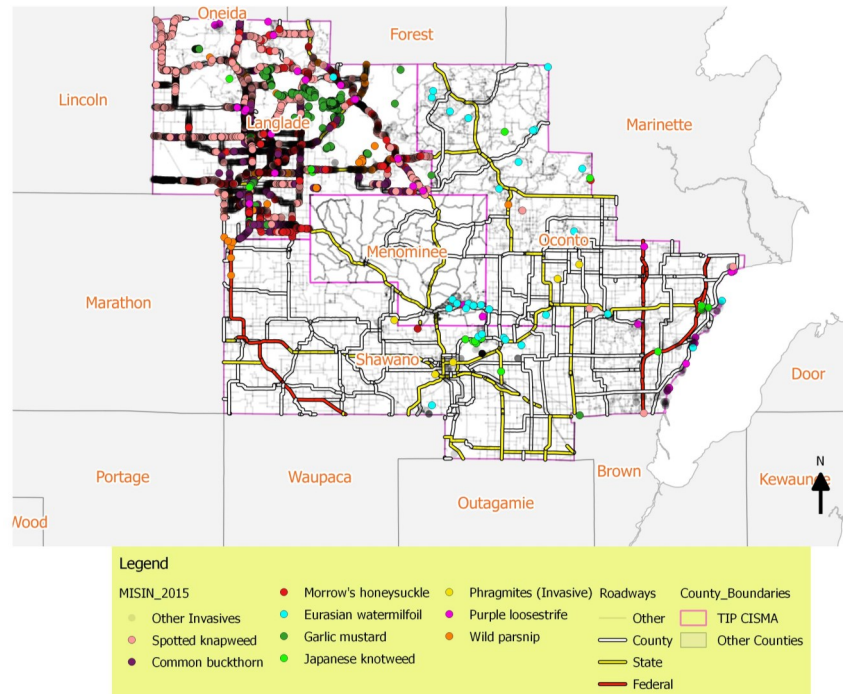


Number of people reached by method 2014 vs. 2015.

Inventory

2015 Inventory Summary

In January of 2015 approximately 474 populations of invasive species were known to exist in the TIP management area. Thanks to our partners we were able to report an additional 13, 254 populations to the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN). This makes TIP one of the best documented areas in the state, and we hope to continue these efforts in 2016 to include better data in Menominee, Shawano, and Oconto Counties.



Map of all reported invasive species in the TIP area. Created December 2015

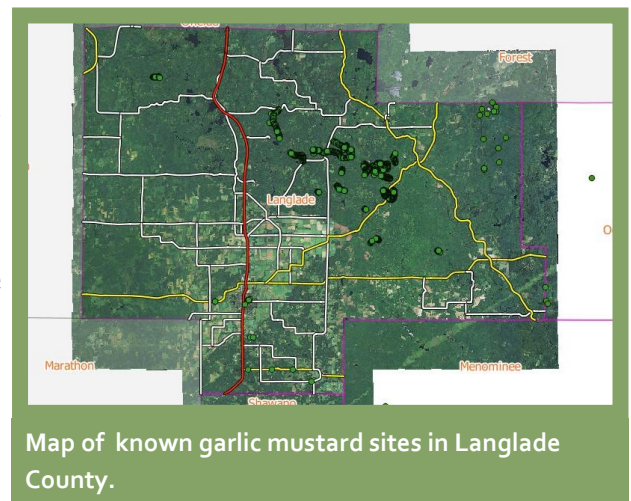
Control

2015 Control Summary

“In 2015 TIP treated a total of 93.1 acres for invasive species, which exceeded our goal of 53 acres. The main species treated were garlic mustard, buckthorn, wild parsnip, and Policeman’s helmet. The most common treatment method was spraying herbicide, which was used on approximately 71 (or 76.5%) of those acres; hand pulling accounted for the remainder.”

-November Coordinator's Report

In addition to the information presented in last month’s report, we can also add that we revisited some previous garlic mustard treatment sites in Langlade County. These sites were found to have only about 20% of their original density within the sites. The plants appeared have come from seeds that were at the perimeter of the treatment area last year. We are very hopeful that when we again visit the sites in 2016, we will either find no garlic mustard or perhaps a handful of plants at sites that were multi-acre treatment areas in 2014.



Map of known garlic mustard sites in Langlade County.

Organizational Development

2015 Organizational Development Summary

TIP's has made several advances in our organizational development this year. The first was our adoption of bylaws, which established the TIP Steering & Executive Committees, as well as formalizing the roles of individuals in the organization.

TIP's second great organizational development of 2015 was the approval of our very first strategic management plan. This plan will help TIP set goals and determine work priorities for partners and staff as we continue forward.

Although, there were many other organizational developments, the most exciting of all has to be the direct financial contributions to TIP that are being made by Langlade & Menominee Counties. To our knowledge, this may represent the first time in the state of Wisconsin that county partners have directly given funds to support a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area like TIP.



Wolf River in Menominee County.

Funding

2015 Funding Summary

In 2015 TIP used approximately \$35,000 of funding brought in by 4 grants. Two of those 4 grants are now fully utilized, but the remaining two will provide TIP with an additional \$12,700 in funding for 2016. Most of these carry-over funds will be used for Coordinator's wages.

In addition to these carry-over grant funds TIP has secured a \$2,500 Weed Management Area grant for wages in 2016 & 2017. TIP currently has 2 GLRI grant proposals undergoing the review process for up to a combined \$50,000. TIP also has a \$9,000 grant proposal that has received its first approval from Lumberjack RC&D.

In addition to all of these grants, 3 county departments have budgeted for TIP in their 2016 budget. The contributing departments are Langlade County Forestry (\$5,000), Langlade County Land Records & Regulations (\$2,500), and Menominee County Land Conservation (\$2,500). Most of these funds will be used as match with other grants to maximize the value of the contribution.



LUMBERJACK

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

Serving Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Shawano & Vilas Counties in Northeast Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Upcoming Events

January

6: TIP Invasive Species Management Action Team Meeting. 8:30 AM in Antigo, WI. Main topic of discussion will be the development of an invasive species management plan for the Langlade County Forestry Department. Contact the TIP Coordinator to find out how you can join in.

23: TIP's 2016 Annual Meeting to be Announced.

28: Lumberjack RC&D Council Meeting. 2016 grant awards to be decided and announced.

February

20: 4-H Project Discovery Day. 8:30 AM, Peace Lutheran School, Antigo, WI. TIP will be hosting a session to help kids decide on fair projects. We will be cautioning kids about invasive species.

23: TIP Executive Committee Meeting. 11:00 AM via conference call. Contact the TIP Coordinator for more details. Agenda Items include an update to the Bylaws, reviewing TIP's planned 2016 Budget, and more!

How Can You Get Involved?

Action Team

Action teams are meetings to discuss invasive species issues and plan treatment relevant to the member's area of interest. Who is a member of an Action team? Anyone willing to attend the meetings fairly regularly.

Volunteering

Volunteers help in the manual removal of invasive species from public lands and ditches within the CISMA, and are most welcome! Scheduling is flexible so please contact TIP Coordinator at the information below to establish a date and time you would like to volunteer.

Donations

If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Tracy Beckman at (715)369-9886

Staying informed!

Follow us on Facebook or visit the webpage at <http://timberlandinvasives.org/>
Or sign up to TIP's Email list!

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