

Coordinator's Monthly Report: February 2016

Serving Langlade, Menominee, Oconto, and Shawano counties

Summary

February 2016

February 2016 may not have been as busy as January was for TIP but we still had plenty of highlights including:

- Reaching four times as many people as last year.
- Working with the Langlade County 4-H.
- TIP's first Annual Meeting a success!
- TIP Strategic Management Plan open for revisions.
- Working on our Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement.
- Scheduling several upcoming events to attend.



Education & Outreach

Monthly Reach Update

February 2016 was another fantastic month for TIP. We were able to reach 1,200 people, that's *four times* as many as last year! Heading into March, we will continue to do everything possible to keep this trend going.

4-H Project Discovery Day

On February 20th, TIP attended the Langlade County 4-H's Project Discovery Day. We hosted station on Invasive Species ID that was reported as being "really, really fun" by all in attendance. The kids at the station began with no knowledge of invasive species, but left with confidence in their ability to explain what invasive species are and how to identify them. The positive reports resulted in an accepted offer for TIP to host an outdoor educational session at the 4-H summer camp later this year.



Langlade County Project Discovery Day Invasive Species ID Station. Photo by Chris Arrowood

Organizational Development

TIP's First Annual Meeting A Success!

Thanks to all of our partners, TIP's first Annual Meeting was an all around success. The event featured presentations, door prizes, lunch, and opportunities for questions to be answered. Thank you to all those that helped!

At the annual meeting, we elected Langlade County Forestry, and the US Forest Service to fill our two at-large Steering Committee seats. Langlade County Forestry was chosen to have a seat because of their on-going financial contributions to TIP. The US Forest Service was chosen to fill a seat because of their role in setting TIP up and regular group participation.



TIP's Annual Meeting. Photo from Jeremy Johnson

These groups will serve on the Steering Committee for a two-year term, at which point they may be re-elected. Partners were also given the opportunity at this meeting to revise their authorized contacts for the group, along with any alternates.

Funding

GLRI Funding

At the Annual Meeting, the TIP Steering Committee decided to have me author a letter to the Forest Service's GLRI Grant Program thanking them for all of their support and offering suggestions on the strengths and weaknesses of their grant review process in the future.

TIP Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement

TIP is currently in the process of authoring a first-of-its-kind Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between our major partners. When finished, this agreement will provide the basis for the partners to direct financially support TIP as a regional resource. The document is currently in a rough draft form and not being sent to anyone but the TIP Steering Committee and their legal consultants. If you have any questions, please contact the TIP Coordinator or your Steering Committee representative.



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RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

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

Upcoming Events

March

14: Elcho 4-H Presentation. 5:30 PM in Elcho, WI. The TIP Coordinator will be giving a presentation on invasive species to the Elcho 4-H club.

15: TIP Executive Committee Meeting. 11:00 AM Via conference call.

23: Invasive Species Action Team Meeting. 8:30 AM in Antigo, WI. We will be discussing the TIP Strategic Management Plan.

<u> April</u>

15: Envirothon. 8:00 AM—4:00 PM in Rosholt, WI. Teams of students will prove their knowledge on a variety of natural resources issues. This year's theme is "Invasive Species: A Challenge to the Environment, Economy, and Society."

20: Spring AIS Coordinators Meeting. Mead Wildlife Area

21: Spring CISMA Meeting. Mead Wildlife Area.

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!



Contact the TIP Coordinator at: timberlandinvasives@outlook.com 715-799-5710 extension 3