

**Lower Menominee River Area of Concern
Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting**
November 10, 2014, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. CST
UW-Marquette, Marinette, WI
Minutes prepared by Laurel Last

DESIRED OUTCOME

Meeting attendees will be able to learn about and provide input on the new USACE Lower Menominee River island habitat restoration project

ATTENDEES

Cheryl Bougie (WDNR), Kris Erickson (Ecology and Environment, Inc.), Jon Kukuk (NestEgg Marine), Laurel Last (WDNR), Trygve Rhude (Chappee Rapids Audubon Society), Christina Rockwell (Ecology and Environment, Inc.), Keith West (Co-Chair)

Introductions, Overview of Agenda – Keith West, CAC Co-Chair

USACE Aquatic Plant Control for Rookery Habitat project summary and discussion

– Kris Erickson, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

- Kris shared handouts and described project to the group
- USACE has secured funding through their Aquatic Plant Control Research Program for invasive species management on Lower Menominee islands (Blueberry, Little Blueberry, Boom, and Strawberry)
- This project is a Detroit District project that also includes technical expertise from USACE's Engineering Research and Development Center (referred to as ERDC), Buffalo District, RAP coordinators, TAC, CAC, and other interested regional partners.
- 2 ½ year project, to end in 2016
- First two years initiate baseline mapping, invasive control activities, and restoration plantings (which may occur toward end of second year or in third year)
- Third year will involve adaptive management through detailed monitoring
- Kris—Besides target species (buckthorn, honeysuckle, grape), they also observed small Phragmites stand on Strawberry, some reed canary grass other islands, sumac on Boom
- Will definitely treat Phragmites, but other two not certain yet
- Kris—Contractor bid package out in December for cutting and spraying, hoping for local companies to respond
- Others—Might not get many responses due to scale of project and special needs (islands)
- Keith—Will bird monitoring be bid out? Interested in helping with that (UW-Marquette students)
- Kris—Plan is for ERDC and E & E to conduct the migratory, nesting, and treatment bird monitoring but the Project Team is definitely open to securing local help and interest
- Kris—Need for outreach, collaboration, plan for future—local stewardship
- Keith—Interested in being involved along with his students
- Trygve—Local Audubon chapter—Wendel Johnson is main contact (was at TAC meeting)
- Jon—Need to consider human activities on islands—If open up Strawberry by treating invasives, might attract more people
- Also, will you control access during treatment?

- Kris—Yes, will need to consider human access and activities on the islands
- Keith—Does project fit in with AOC goals and schedule?
- Laurel—Yes, fits in with objectives and goal to complete management actions by 2016
- Kris—Yes, project was funded to support AOC goals and schedule
- Will continue to involve AOC groups to ensure project meets local objectives

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ONLINE RESOURCES

EPA – <http://www.epa.gov/grtlakes/aoc/menominee/index.html>

MDEQ – http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313_3677_15430_57388---,00.html

UW-Extension – <http://fyi.uwex.edu/aocs/>

WDNR – <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/menominee.html>

2013 RAP and F&W Plans available

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/documents/Menominee2013RAPUpdate.pdf>

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/documents/Menominee2013FishAndWildlifePlan.pdf>