



2012 Annual Plan of Work

Mission: To foster partnerships among diverse stakeholders that supports a healthy environment and economy for the Upper Peninsula.

Vision: The Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council will promote the conservation of the natural resources of the Upper Peninsula for the benefit of its current and future residents. The Council will strive for a balance between the management of natural resources to protect the environment, and the implementation of economic development activities in order to sustain the economy of the region. We will identify resource conservation and land use issues, and work with local communities to address these concerns.

Land and Water Conservation Goals:

Goal 1: Reduce the population of garlic mustard in the UP and begin to establish long-term control of this invasive species.

Activities:

- a. Complete QAPP and NEPA documentation (Ex Dir)
- b. Bring together local stakeholders in the 4 areas where large infestations occur to strategize best management practices for control at each site (Ex Dir)
- c. Contact at least 3000 landowners and educate about garlic mustard (partners, CD's)
- d. Inventory at least 1000 acres for garlic mustard (partners, CD's)
- e. Conduct a minimum of 150 volunteer work days and 10 education workshops (Ex Dir, CD's)
- f. Post 500 flyers with garlic mustard information at campgrounds, trailheads, and other public areas (Ex Dir, CD's)
- g. Sponsor Garlic Mustard Summit (Ex Dir, CD's)
- h. Enlist additional partners in project (Ex Dir, CD's)
- i. Distribute press releases in region (Ex Dir, CD's)
- j. Install 10 bootbrush stations (Ex Dir, partners)

Goal 2: Continue leadership role in UP-wide invasive plant collaboration efforts.

Activities:

- a. Find funding for annual UP-wide invasive plant conference (Ex Dir, partners)
- b. Serve on conference planning committee (Ex Dir)
- c. Continue support for Rapid Response Invasive Plant teams in conservation districts (Ex Dir)
- d. Participate with CWMA's throughout UP (Ex Dir)

Goal 3: Work with partners to secure additional funding for invasive plant work in the region.

Activities:

- a. Find funding for UP-wide invasive phragmites project (Ex Dir, partners)

Council Capacity Building Goals:

Goal 1: Strengthen Council capacity by implementing additional best non-profit management practices.

Activities:

- a. Develop a business plan to replace outdated strategic plan (Andersen, Marshall, Waring)
- b. Examine the possibility of adding at large board positions in order to increase board capacity
- c. Examine board structure and responsibilities, develop a board member position description
- d. Examine membership structure and discuss new membership categories
- e. Examine bylaws for possible revision
- f. Discuss feasibility of increasing staff
- g. Pursue board member training opportunities
- h. Develop job description and contract for Executive Director (personnel committee)
- i. Renew Circle of Diamonds membership & pursue enhanced membership level (Ex Dir)

Goal 2: Strengthen Council visibility and awareness within the Upper Peninsula.

Activities:

- a. Develop an advertising package promoting past council accomplishments and services available (Ex Dir, outside professionals, Andersen, Black)
- b. Re-start quarterly partner reports and increase distribution list for reports (Ex Dir)
- c. Utilize individual projects to promote council through logo and funding statements (Ex Dir)
- d. Board member outreach to groups with whom they have a relationship (board members)
- e. Better promotion of what we have done and currently are doing (staff and board members)

Goal 3: Strengthen Council financial stability

Activities:

- a. Discuss additional categories for membership fees (board members)
- b. Request donations from all UP tribal governments (Marshall)
- c. Explore the possibility of an AmeriCrops Program (Ex Dir, Marshall, Andersen)
- d. Explore the possibility of doing grant research for a fee (Ex Dir, board members)
- e. Explore possibility of doing webinars/training sessions (woody biomass utilization, invasive plants, etc) for a fee (Andersen, Marshall)
- f. Explore possibility of applying for Conservation Innovation Grant (Ex Dir)
- g. Look for contract work that fits our qualifications (Ex Dir, board members)
- h. Develop documentation for federally approved indirect cost rate

Major Projects:

RRIP-IT-UP (Rapid Response Invasive Plant Intervention Team for the UP)

Project Description: Work with partners to establish an area-wide network for the purpose of identification, monitoring and managing invasive plants.

Project Completion Date: April 30, 2012

RRIP-IT-UP: Eradicate Garlic Mustard in Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Project Description: Eradicate garlic mustard in the UP by establishing long-term control on known sites and providing training to partners to continue control efforts after project ends.

Project Completion Date: October 1, 2013