The Regional Early Detection and Rapid Response Campaign in Northeast Michigan
About Huron Pines
Conserving the forests, lakes, and streams of Northeast Michigan

- Nonprofit, 501(c)(3)
- 38 years in business
- 8 full-time staff plus AmeriCorps program
- Projects include:
  - In-stream habitat
  - Land stewardship
  - Watershed planning

6,700 Square Miles
4,288,154 Acres
5,005 River Miles
172,800 Lake Acres
467 Shoreline Miles
Program Overview

Early detection and rapid response, involving

- Partnerships (CWMA)
- Inventory
- Working with landowners
- Physical/Chemical treatment
- Outreach and education
Early Detection-Rapid Response

• Our resources are still high quality
• Find invaders fast and treat them before they become a big, expensive problem
• Priority species: phragmites, buckthorn, purple loosestrife (newcomer: Japanese knotweed)
Partnerships

• We organized a Cooperative Weed Management Area

• Partners include agencies, nonprofits, interest groups, local governments

• Not a commitment to funding but to the overall effort

• HP AmeriCorps SWAT Team
2010 Phragmites Inventory

- May aerial survey
- June-July ground survey
- Met private landowners, enrolled in program
- Results: 246 patches
  - 24 native, 222 invasive
  - 80 treated (33%)
  - Over 200 miles surveyed
2010 Treatment (All Species)

• Phragmites: 80 sites, 33.1 acres
• Buckthorn: 4 acres
• Loosestrife: 30 river miles surveyed, 45 trash bags of plants
• Japanese knotweed: 1 patch in Presque Isle Co.
2011 Plans

- Continued SWAT Success
- Increase phragmites treatment from 80 to 100 properties
- Invasive Species Summit
- Enlist local volunteers
- Invasive species inventory/removal integrated into other HP projects
Future Goals

• Treatment organized locally
• HP treated areas clear of invasives
• HP Crew acts as a SWAT team—"on call" for small projects but not months
• Northeast Michigan invasive species under control!
Obstacles

- Lack of knowledge: what to do and what NOT to do
- Apathy at local leader level
- Lack of funding for whole shoreline treatment
- Many vacant/forclosed/unknown properties
- Distrust of government/anger at shoreline regs
Successes

• SWAT team approach
• Individual landowner relationships
• Outreach—workshops, letters, materials
• County-wide permits
• Volunteer events
• Treatment!
Contact Info

Jennifer Muladore
Huron Pines
501 Norway St.
Grayling, MI 49738

(989) 344-0753 ext. 31
jennifer@huronpines.org

www.huronpines.org