

SPECIES PRIORITY LISTS

Awareness of the distribution and abundance of invasive plants across our two-county area is a mandatory component of being prepared for new invasions. From 2012 to 2014, WHIP invested significant effort to capture a “snapshot” of the status of local invasive populations. With funding from the Lumberjack Resource Conservation & Development Council (Rhinelander, Wisconsin), WHIP carried out invasive plant surveys on the right-of-ways along all county highways in our two counties. These surveys yielded 2381 invasive plant records. Maps produced from the survey data reveal relatively low occurrences of invasive plants as compared to other areas of the state. The favorable results could be interpreted that north central WI is not as highly vulnerable to the plethora of invasive plants common along roadways further south. However, the WHIP steering committee recognized the opportunity for proactive preparation for the onslaught of invasive plants likely spreading northward and the financial implications of mitigating these species at a later date.

Through examining these survey results and consulting with our partner groups, WHIP has now created three Priority Lists of terrestrial invasive plant species: “*Early Detection & Response*”, “*Priority Management*”, and “*Watch*”. Species are separated into three categories based on overall distribution, local abundance, ecological and/or human health threats. These lists are intended to serve as a guideline for WHIP members and partners. They will be reviewed and adjusted as needed.

Definitions

Early Detection and Response: This category of species exist only in isolated, scattered populations and are of high priority for early detection and rapid response efforts. Eradicating new invasions of these species early is the most successful way to prevent their spread.

Priority Management: Species in this category are established in the WHIP management area and their presence can negatively impact natural areas, making their control and management necessary.

Watch: Species in this category are yet to be observed in the WHIP management area but have been recorded in at least one adjacent county. These plants are a detection priority as they are known to be particularly damaging either to ecological systems or to human health.

Status in Wisconsin: P = Prohibited, R = Restricted

Species are chosen for regulation by state agencies based on the harm they pose to the state’s environment, economy, and/or public health. In general, species that are more widespread or naturalized are restricted while less widespread species are prohibited. The transport, introduction, and sale of all regulated species is illegal. In Wisconsin, it is illegal to possess a prohibited species, and property owners are legally required to control prohibited species present on their property.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status in Wisconsin	Management Objective
		R = Restricted P = Prohibited	Contain, Control, Eradicate, or Other
Early Detection and Response			
Wild Chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	P	
Common Reed (non-native)	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	P/R (R in WHIP area)	
Oriental Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	R	
Wild Parsnip	<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	R	
Garden Valerian	<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	R	
European Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	P/R (R in WHIP area)	
Butterfly Dock	<i>Petasites hybridus</i>	P	
February Daphne	<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	not regulated	
Priority Management			
Glossy Buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus</i>	R	
Common Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	R	
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	R	
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	R	
Japanese Knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	R	
Yellow Flag Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	R	
Eurasian Honeysuckles	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i> , <i>L. morrowii</i> , <i>L. x bella</i>	R	
Leafy and Cypress Spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> , <i>E. cyparissias</i>	R	
Plumeless Thistle Canada Thistle Musk Thistle	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i> <i>Cirsium arvense</i> <i>Carduus natans</i>	R	
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	R	
Garden Yellow Loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	R	
Common Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	R	
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	R	
Crown Vetch	<i>Coronilla varia</i>	R	

Watch List			
Giant Hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantagazzanum</i>	P	
Bohemian Knotweed	<i>Polygonum x bohemicum</i>	P	
Giant Knotweed	<i>Polygonum sachalinense</i>		
Policeman's Helmet	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	P	

RESOURCES

Report an invasive species: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/report.html>

NR40 details: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/nr/001/40.pdf

List of regulated invasive species under NR 40: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/classification.html>

Priority Invasive Plants in Wisconsin website: <http://arcg.is/1TFisdN>

Financial resources for invasive species: <http://invasivespecies.wi.gov/financial-assistance/>

WDNR Draft "Response Framework for Invasive Species":
<http://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/documents/guidance/ISResponseFramework.pdf>

WHIP Strategic Plan (2016): <http://bit.ly/1ocgZPm>