



Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition

A cooperative partnership managing invasive species in
Dickinson, Menominee (MI), Florence, Forest, and Marinette Counties (WI)

Stream and River Monitoring Volunteer

Volunteer Season: June 1st (approx.) - August 31st (approx.)

Do you enjoy spending time outdoors near the water? Does spending your day wading in a river or stream looking for aquatic invasive species sound like fun? Then help us monitor our streams.

Description: The Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) is a cooperative invasive species management area (CISMA) operating in Florence, Forest, and Marinette counties in Wisconsin and Dickinson and Menominee counties in Northern Michigan. Our CISMA consists of partners and members from local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, land managers, utility companies, civic organizations, businesses, and individuals, all interested in the education and management of invasive species in the five county WRISC area.

Non-native invasive species can have devastating ecological and economic impacts to communities. Industries such as forestry, agriculture, and outdoor recreation are all at risk, as are native fish and wildlife habitats. This coalition strives to combine multi-agency resources and expertise to coordinate education and management of invasive species across borders, promoting best management practices that will help to slow the spread of these invaders.

As a Stream and River Monitoring Volunteer you will be able to adopt a favorite stretch of a stream or river and monitor it for invasive species. To do this, you will conduct a standardized survey that will help you in locating invasive species. You can also collect samples/photos for verification of any suspicious looking plants/animals. Knowing how to correctly identify aquatic invasive species is imperative to leading a successful survey of a stream or river.

When conducting a stream survey, you will be following the guidelines of the program Project RED (Riverine Early Detector). We have provided you with a comprehensive kit of what you will need, guidelines, invasive species and protocol that is required by Project RED. You can also find copies of this on our website www.wrisc.org. Also, due to COVID-19, we are unable to offer on-site training and plant identification. Training videos will be posted on the stream monitoring volunteer page, as well as any updates related to COVID-19. Also provided is the datasheet on which the identification of the invasive species is to be recorded, and the tools to conduct your survey.

Remember to take samples and photos of anything you struggle to identify and contact us with any questions you may have.

Please return all tools and datasheets/photos/samples to WRISC office at 420 N. Hooper St. Kingsford, MI 49802.

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