
To:	Mary Gansberg Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2984 Shawano Avenue Green Bay, WI 54313	From:	Melissa Curran Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 1165 Scheuring Road De Pere, WI 54115
File:	AIS Grant AIRR20216 Stantec Project# 193703791	Date:	December 18, 2017

Reference: ***Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant AIRR20216 – 2017 Annual Project Summary,
Point Beach State Forest Phragmites Control***

Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) was awarded Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Rapid Response Control grant funding in 2015 (AIRR20216) to treat the invasive European subspecies of common reed grass (*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*) along the Lake Michigan shoreline within the Point Beach State Forest, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin (the "Project Area"). This technical memorandum summarizes 2017 treatments performed under the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant for Rapid Response awarded to LNRP.

BACKGROUND

The Project Area includes 6 miles of Lake Michigan coast comprising Great Lakes beach and dune habitats with several Threatened and Endangered plant and animal occurrences. The State Forest Management Plan for the Project Area includes provisions for the removal of exotic/problem species, and the control efforts proposed by LNRP are consistent with this approach.

Initial common reed grass treatments occurred in 2015 along the entire Lake Michigan shoreline within the Project Area. Treatments in 2015 were very successful based on site surveys performed in June 2016. Follow-up control was performed in 2016 and 2017.

The purpose of treating common reed grass along the shoreline is to make beaches useable; to improve shoreline habitat for plant and animal species; to promote tourist amenities; to ensure recreational, birding and fishing access; to promote an ecological balance and natural aesthetics; and to minimize the spread of common reed grass to other rivers and waterbodies.

Only recently have non-native treatment efforts focused on controlling populations of common reed grass in Manitowoc County. These efforts have largely been focused on select waterways or areas adjacent to high conservation value lands (i.e., state natural areas, state parks). LNRP has been working to expand on previous treatment efforts in Manitowoc County in order to significantly reduce the footprint and expansion potential of this aggressive non-native species across the landscape. Efforts funded under Grant AIRR20216 focused specifically on Point Beach State Forest and adjacent shoreline areas.

MANAGEMENT CONDUCTED

Chemical treatments were performed by pesticide applicators certified and licensed in the state of Wisconsin for aquatic applications. Treatments within the project area were conducted on August 7, 2017 (see attached treatment records).

Several methods of chemical (herbicide) control were used to treat common reed grass within the Project Area. The control methods selected for a given site varied depending upon the location,



December 18, 2017
Mary Gansberg
Page 2 of 3

Reference: ***Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant AIRR20216 – 2016 Annual Project Summary,
Point Beach State Forest Phragmites Control***

size/stage of the infestation, site dynamics, the presence of rare biotic communities, threatened, endangered or special concern plant or animal species, sensitive natural resources, and resources available. A reduced level of effort was required in 2016 and 2017 compared to the initial 2015 treatments; as a result, only wick treatment application was required. However, scattered plants were still identified and treated along the shoreline in 2017, suggesting continued follow-up control is needed.

Wick application via backpack uses a higher concentration of active ingredient than foliar spray application (label-suggested rate: 33% glyphosate) which produces a rapid and effective kill on target common reed grass with little to no residual action. Hand wicking was the preferred application method as the common reed grass populations were scattered and mixed with native, short-stature vegetation.

CONCLUSION

Stantec performed invasive common reed grass herbicide treatments within the Project Area on behalf of LNRP in support of their WDNR AIS Rapid Response Control grant funding. Treatments were initiated in fall 2015 to treat populations of invasive common reed grass along the Lake Michigan shoreline, with follow-up treatments in 2016 and 2017 to target regrowth. Additional follow-up treatments are recommended; however, 2017 represents the final year of treatment under Grant AIRR20216.

Please contact me or Jim Kettler (920-304-1919, jim@lnrp.org) if you need any additional information regarding the invasive treatments performed as part of this project.

STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.


Melissa Curran
Environmental Scientist/Botanist
Phone: (920) 592-8400
Melissa.Curran@stantec.com

Attachments: Photograph
Treatment Records

Photographs



Photo 1. Scattered plants along shoreline

To:	Mary Gansberg Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2984 Shawano Avenue Green Bay, WI 54313	From:	Melissa Curran Stantec Consulting Services Inc. 1165 Scheuring Road De Pere, WI 54115
File:	AIS Grant AIRR20216 Stantec Project# 193703791	Date:	December 6, 2016

Reference: ***Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant AIRR20216 – 2016 Annual Project Summary, Point Beach State Forest Phragmites Control***

Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) was awarded Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Rapid Response Control grant funding in 2015 (AIRR20216) to treat the invasive European subspecies of common reed grass (*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*) along the Lake Michigan shoreline within the Point Beach State Forest, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin (the "Project Area"). This technical memorandum summarizes 2016 treatments performed under the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Grant for Rapid Response awarded to LNRP.

BACKGROUND

The Project Area includes 6 miles of Lake Michigan coast comprising Great Lakes beach and dune habitats with several Threatened and Endangered plant and animal occurrences. The State Forest Management Plan for the Project Area includes provisions for the removal of exotic/problem species, and the control efforts proposed by LNRP are consistent with this approach.

Initial common reed grass treatments occurred in 2015 along the entire Lake Michigan shoreline within the Project Area. Treatments in 2015 were very successful based on site surveys performed in June 2016. Follow-up control was performed in 2016, and will continue in 2017.

The purpose of treating common reed grass along the shoreline is to make beaches useable; to improve shoreline habitat for plant and animal species; to promote tourist amenities; to ensure recreational, birding and fishing access; to promote an ecological balance and natural aesthetics; and to minimize the spread of common reed grass to other rivers and waterbodies.

Only recently have non-native treatment efforts focused on controlling populations of common reed grass in Manitowoc County. These efforts have largely been focused on select waterways or areas adjacent to high conservation value lands (i.e., state natural areas, state parks). LNRP has been working to expand on previous treatment efforts in Manitowoc County in order to significantly reduce the footprint and expansion potential of this aggressive non-native species across the landscape. Efforts funded under Grant AIRR20216 focused specifically on Point Beach State Forest and adjacent shoreline areas.

MANAGEMENT CONDUCTED

Chemical treatments were performed by pesticide applicators certified and licensed in the state of Wisconsin for aquatic applications. Treatments were conducted on August 30-31, 2016 (see attached treatment records).

Several methods of chemical (herbicide) control were used to treat common reed grass within the Project Area. The control methods selected for a given site varied depending upon the location,

Reference: ***Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant AIRR20216 – 2016 Annual Project Summary,
Point Beach State Forest Phragmites Control***

size/stage of the infestation, site dynamics, the presence of rare biotic communities, threatened, endangered or special concern plant or animal species, sensitive natural resources, and resources available. A reduced level of effort was required in 2016 compared to the initial 2015 treatments; as a result, only wick treatment application was required.

Wick application via backpack and rubber-tracked, low-ground pressure Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) was used where access permitted, such as on sand or rock beach, solid soils, and herbaceous-dominated communities. Wicking typically uses a higher concentration of active ingredient than foliar spray application (label-suggested rate: 33% glyphosate) which produces a rapid and effective kill on target common reed grass with little to no residual action. UTVs with rubber tracks allow for very low ground pressures (0.5 lbs/sq. in.) and reduced rutting and soil compaction relative to wheeled vehicles. The wick is mounted on the front of the UTV, and can be manually raised or lowered to the height of the target vegetation. Wicking was used where common reed grass populations were scattered and mixed with native, short-stature vegetation.

CONCLUSION

Stantec performed invasive common reed grass herbicide treatments within the Project Area on behalf of LNRP with support of their WDNR AIS Rapid Response Control grant funding. Treatments were initiated in fall 2015 to treat populations of invasive common reed grass along the Lake Michigan shoreline, with follow-up treatments in 2016 to target regrowth. Additional follow-up treatments are proposed in 2017 to target re-growth and newly-identified populations. Monitoring shall also be performed in 2017 to determine treatment success and identify future treatment needs.

Please contact me or Jim Kettler (920-304-1919, jim@lnrp.org) if you need any additional information regarding the invasive treatments performed as part of this project.

STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.



Melissa Curran
Environmental Scientist/Botanist
Phone: (920) 592-8400
Melissa.Curran@stantec.com

Attachments: Photographs
Treatment Records

c. Jim Kettler (jim@lnrp.org) – electronic copy

Photographs



Photo 1. Illustrating 2015 treatment results



Photo 2. Wicking of scattered re-growth

Photographs



Photo 3. Illustrating 2015 treatment results