

# Invasive Species Survey Protocol



## Objective

The objective of the Invasive Species Survey is to develop a unified database of invasive species occurrences in the Upper Peninsula, in partnership with the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN). These guidelines will assist all partners within the Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's) in documenting the occurrence and spread of invasive plants across the Upper Peninsula. The data we collect will allow us to develop and implement effective control strategies.

## Documentation

All information about invasive species occurrences must be documented using the categories on the official data form. All locations must be recorded using a GPS device.

## SURVEY FORM

An individual paper data form may be used for each site. For each GPS position collected, record the following information on the Survey Form.

- Date
- Observer's Name
- Contact Information: a) e-mail address and b) phone number
- County
- Other location information: a) Township; b) Townline; c) Range; and d) Section (if available).
- GPS Coordinates: Example — "N44.75723 and W85.65276" (should all be in decimal degrees)
- Map Box—Draw a map of the invasive plant location. Include information such as road name, nearest crossroad, which side of road the invasive is located, etc.
- Plant Species Name
- Area: Select one of the following options:
  - 0 = None
  - 1 = Individual/few/several
  - 2 = <1,000 square feet (half tennis court)
  - 3 = 1,000 square feet to 0.5 acre
  - 4 = 0.5 acre to 1.0 acre (football field w/o end zones)
  - 5 = > 1 acre
- Density: Select one of the following options
  - 1 = **Sparse** (scattered individual stems or very small stands)
  - 2 = **Patchy** (a mix of sparse and dense areas)
  - 3 = **Dense** (greater than 40% of the area)
  - 4 = **Monoculture** (nearly 100% of area)
- Treatment Status: Check "Untreated", "Consecutive Years Treated", "Nonconsecutive Treatment" or "Don't know". If consecutive years treated is known, please enter the number of years.
- Comments: Note use of flagging, general quality of natural community, last year treated (if known) or other pertinent information about the location, species infestation or mapping.

## Invasive ID Code (For Office Use Only)

The box on the upper right corner of the Survey Form is reserved for a unique ID code to be used in mapping the location of each invasive plant found. The code will be developed in the following manner: "MCWWGM001" where MC is the two letter code for the county, WW is the observer's initials, GM is the invasive species code, and 001 is the three digit sequence number. Note: Within each county, the three digit sequence number of the ID for each person must never repeat.