



National Park Service
Great Lakes Network Office
2800 Lakeshore Drive E., Suite D
Ashland, WI 54806

Great Lakes Region
Invasive Plant Management Plan
Environmental Assessment

National Park Service
U.S. Department of
Interior



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: **Great Lakes Invasive Plant Management Plan** **Environmental Assessment**

The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Great Lakes Invasive Plant Management Plan (IPMP) for the following ten parks located in the Great Lakes region:

- Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
- Grand Portage National Monument
- Ice Age National Scenic Trail
- Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
- Isle Royale National Park
- Mississippi National River & Recreation Area
- Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
- Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
- St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
- Voyageurs National Park

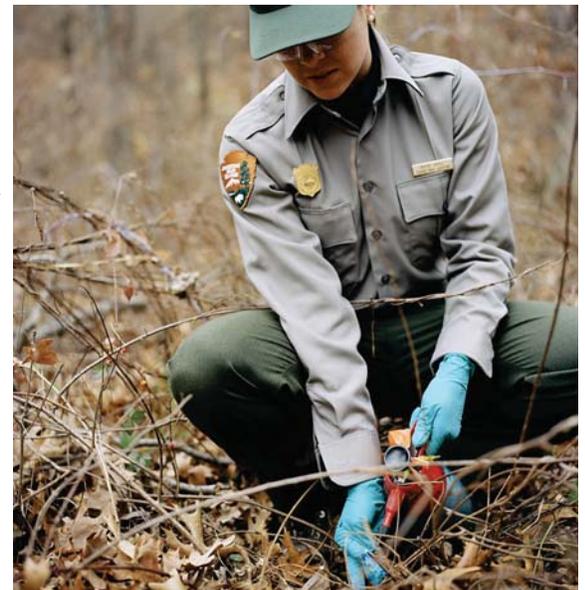


Photo courtesy of: Daniel P. Hojnacki

The public comment period for the Great Lakes IPMP/EA is from **April 2, 2012** until **May 1, 2012**. The public is encouraged to provide comments electronically through the NPS' Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) database using the "Open for Comment" link at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ipmpea>.

Alternatively, comments may also be mailed to:
Great Lakes IPMP, c/o Kleinfelder, 300 E. Mineral Avenue, Suite 7, Littleton, CO 80122-2655.

Comments must be received in writing by, time-stamped, and/or post-marked by:
May 1, 2012, 5:00 pm eastern standard time (EST).

"...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations"

National Park Service - The Organic Act of 1916

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Great Lakes Invasive Plant Management Plan (IPMP) Environmental Assessment (EA) has been developed based on sound integrated pest management. Integrated pest management is defined as a decision-making process that coordinates knowledge of pest biology, the environment, and available technology to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage, by cost-effective means, while posing the least possible risk to people and park resources. Integrated pest management can also include reducing the risk of new introductions, determining acceptable levels of infestation, use of multiple techniques for control, and continued monitoring and management.

When completed, this Great Lakes IPMP/EA would provide strategies for park staff to manage terrestrial and emergent wetland invasive plants on both NPS and NPS managed lands within the designated boundaries of the ten Great Lakes parks. Another primary goal of the IPMP/EA is to serve as a programmatic NEPA document for invasive plant management within each of the ten parks. That is, future invasive plant activities addressed by this EA would not require additional analysis under NEPA for park-specific actions, so long as the impacts of these specific actions have been adequately addressed in the Great Lakes IPMP/EA.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Great Lakes IPMP/EA is now available for public review and comment. Please visit the NPS website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ipmpea> to retrieve the EA, or view a hardcopy at any of the ten Great Lakes parks headquarters.

Comments should be submitted electronically using the "Open for Comment" link at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ipmpea>. Alternatively, comments may also be mailed to:



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For more information, please visit the project website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ipmpea> or contact Carmen Chapin at (715) 682-0631 ext. 230.