

Stewardship Committee Annual Report from Cory Gritzmacher

1. Glossy Buckthorn Funding
 - a. We will continue to look for possible funding opportunities to further the work on glossy buckthorn in the bog. We applied for a Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant and we know this fall if awarded.
2. Bog Guardian Program
 - a. The program has proven to be effective to help manage invasive species around the Bog. We are always looking for volunteers to help execute the program and potential lead the program in the future.
3. Mud Lake and Watts Lake
 - a. The black turn floating nest islands that were originally installed at Mud Lake have now found a new home. They are being used by the DNR for a project in Superior, Wisconsin.
 - b. We are monitoring the Purple Loosestrife population at Mud Lake and may decide to act if it continues to expand. We hope that the beetles will help keep the population controlled in the coming years.
4. Parsnip and Teasel
 - a. We will continue to survey existing populations and old ones with the help of committee members. Parsnip and Teasel have been managed with the help of volunteers and using contacted services.
5. Wildlife Monitoring
 - a. Two Avian Acoustical Monitoring devices have been deployed on the western side of the bog and the devices were retrieved in August. We hope to have data analyzed by Winter of 2024 and based on data we will look at other locations that devices could be deployed for spring/summer of 2024.
 - b. We were awarded a grant from Natural Resource Foundation to help with financial support of the acoustical monitoring.
6. Volunteer Workdays
 - a. Due to the unusual warm winter in 2023, we did not have any workdays. We had one workday this spring to do litter pick up along Cedar Sauk Road. We plan to get some workdays on the schedule for late fall and winter when it is more conducive to doing work in the bog.
 - b. We plan to have another Stewardship meeting in November to discuss possible winter workdays at the bog.