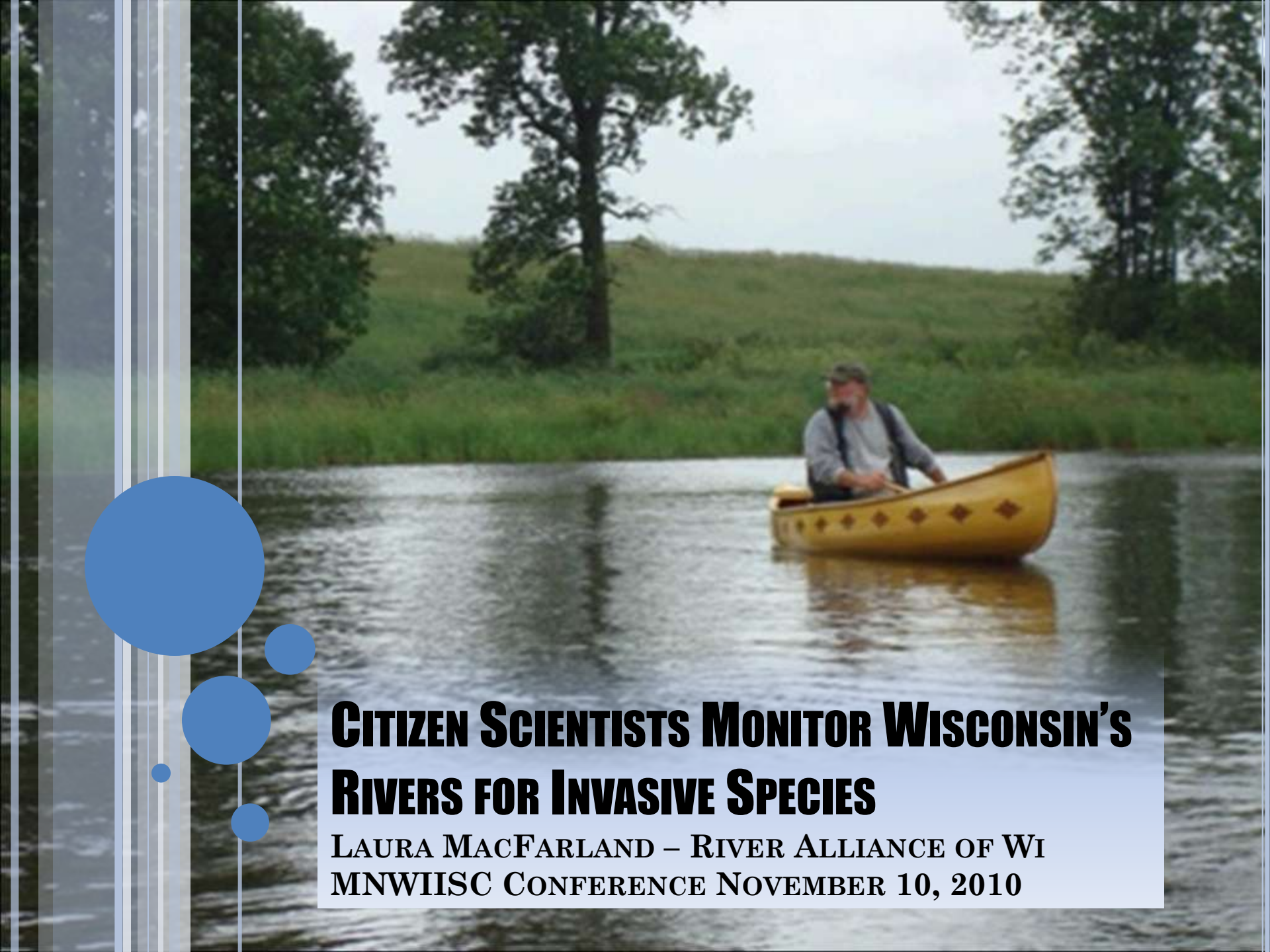


A photograph of a man in a yellow canoe on a river. The man is wearing a grey shirt and a cap, and is paddling. The river is calm, and the background features a grassy bank with several trees. The sky is overcast. On the left side of the image, there are several blue circles of different sizes and vertical lines of varying heights, creating a decorative border.

CITIZEN SCIENTISTS MONITOR WISCONSIN'S RIVERS FOR INVASIVE SPECIES

**LAURA MACFARLAND – RIVER ALLIANCE OF WI
MNWIISC CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 10, 2010**

Why are rivers so vulnerable to invasion?

Natural Disturbances
Human Disturbances
Corridors for Dispersal
Water
Nutrient Rich Soils
Numerous Niches







PROJECT RED (RIVER EARLY DETECTORS)

PURPOSE

- Early detection of invasive species threatening Wisconsin's Rivers to enable containment or eradication.
- Monitoring of invasive species to determine which are flourishing in our riparian corridors
- Engage local citizens in the prevention of spread and the control of invasive species.



PARTNERS



Examples of Local Partners

Friends of Badfish Creek
Florence County
Valley Stewardship Network
Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited
Ridges Sanctuary





15 Species



1

RECRUITMENT

Project RED

If you are interested in learning more about Project RED, please leave us your contact information and we will contact you about future training opportunities.

Name	County	Email	Telephone



2 TRAINING



3 MONITORING



4 VERIFICATION



5

ENTER DATA ON WWW.CITSCI.ORG

CitSci.org - Visit Information - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.citsci.org/cwis438/Browse/Project/Visit_Info.php?VisitID=438671&WebSiteID=7

Welcome guest [Login](#) | [My Profile](#) | December 22nd 2009

CitSci.org Fighting invasive species... through citizen science

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Survey information for the 'Project R.E.D (Riverine Early Detectors)' project [help](#)

[To Survey List](#)

General Information

Date:	October 5th, 2009
Recorder:	James Gennrich
Authority:	Laura MacFarland
Comments:	Curly Pondweed 10-5-09
Location:	Cedar Creek from Covered Bridge Park to Boy Scout Park in Cedarburg
Survey Type:	Point
Project:	Project R.E.D (Riverine Early Detectors)
Data Source:	Surveys from James Gennrich on October 14th, 2009
Status:	New



Photos



Species Sightings

[Curly Pondweed \(*Potamogeton crispus*\)](#)

[Presence = Present](#)
[Infested Area = 0.002](#) Hectares

An IBIS website [About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | Updated 10/29/2009

6 TAKING ACTION



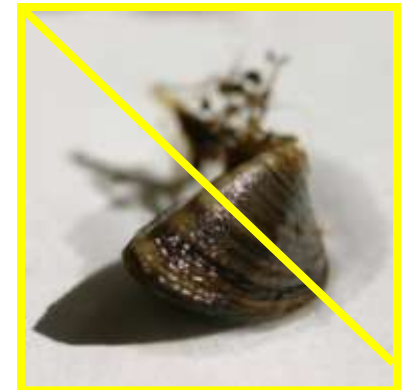
VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

- 146 Volunteers Trained
- 19 Volunteers Joined CitSci.org
- 9 Volunteers Have Contributed Data

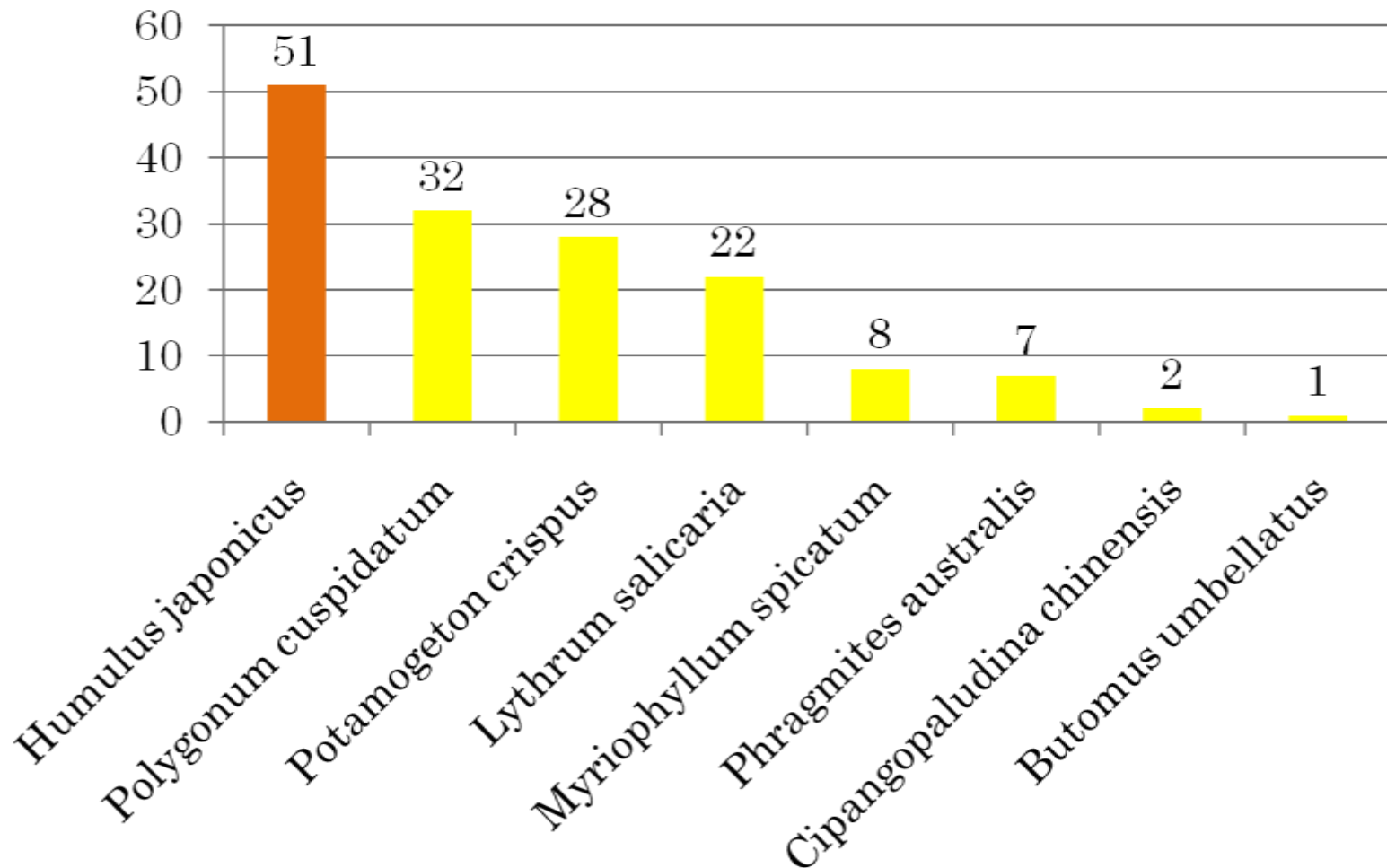




15 Species



FINDINGS





▲ = Trainings

■ = Invasive Species



SUCSESSES

- Increased understanding of the threat of invasive species in rivers
- Increased participation by local partners in monitoring and control
- Increased number of individuals looking for early detection species
- Four control efforts underway or completed
- Demand for trainings remains high



CURRENT LIMITATIONS & CHALLENGES

- Cannot Enter Absence Data
- Not Always Something to Report
- GPS Unit Availability
- Chance of false identification high
- High level of discomfort with number of invasives
- Monitoring where volunteers want to – not strategic
- Volunteer commitment and retention



CHANGES IN 2011

- Species Selection
- More Strategic Monitoring
- Other parameters?



CHANGES IN 2011

- Record where volunteers looked and did not find anything
- Biweekly e-newsletter to participants – more contact with volunteers





PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Paddler Monitoring Ahnapee River by Laura MacFarland, River Alliance of Wisconsin

Japanese Knotweed on the bank by Paul Skawinski

New Zealand Mudsail and dime by California Department of Fish and Game

Zebra Mussel with Bissell Threads by Laura Herman, University of Wisconsin Extension

Japanese Knotweed on banks of Sheboygan River by Laura MacFarland, River Alliance of Wisconsin

Didymospheia geminata in hand by Tim Daley

Hydrilla verticillata by Vic Ramey

Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) by the Greater Vancouver Invasive Plants Council

Woman in Phragmites by Paul Skawinski

Japanese Hops (*Humulus japonicus*) by Laura MacFarland

Myriophyllum spicatum by Laura Herman

Potamogeton crispus by The Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants of the University of Florida

Brazilian waterweed by Kerry Dressler

Flowering Rush by Gary Fewless

Quagga Mussel by Laura Herman

Photographs not listed above were taken by River Alliance of Wisconsin staff

A person with blonde hair, wearing a red cap and a light purple long-sleeved shirt, is seen from behind, paddling an orange kayak down a river. The river is flanked by tall, green grasses. In the background, a dense forest of green trees lines the banks under a clear blue sky. Another person in a blue kayak is visible further ahead. The text "THANK YOU!" is overlaid in the upper right, and the website "www.WisconsinRivers.org" is at the bottom.

THANK YOU!

www.WisconsinRivers.org