

Keeping Momentum a Decade Later

The Door County Invasive Species Team

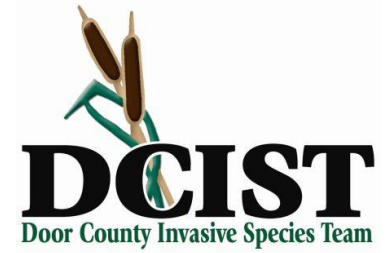


Kari Hagenow – DCIST Coordinator

Krista Lutzke – DC Soil & Water Conservation Department

Door County, WI

a unique place to live and work



Door County, WI

the beginnings of a partnership



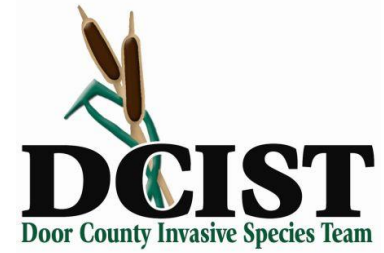
- Unique geography and demography
- Highly biodiversity, rare and endangered species
- Recognized unique set of invasive species concerns
- Three large non-profit land trusts, five state parks, 28 state natural areas, numerous County and Town parks

= **DCIST (circa 2005)**



Start Small

lots of momentum – 2005-2010

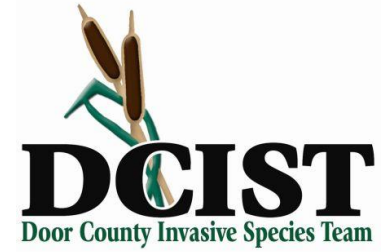


- Creating a brochure/logo/website
- Identifying needs and potential collaborations
- Working at smaller scales
- Education workshops
- Engaging volunteers
- Learning from each other

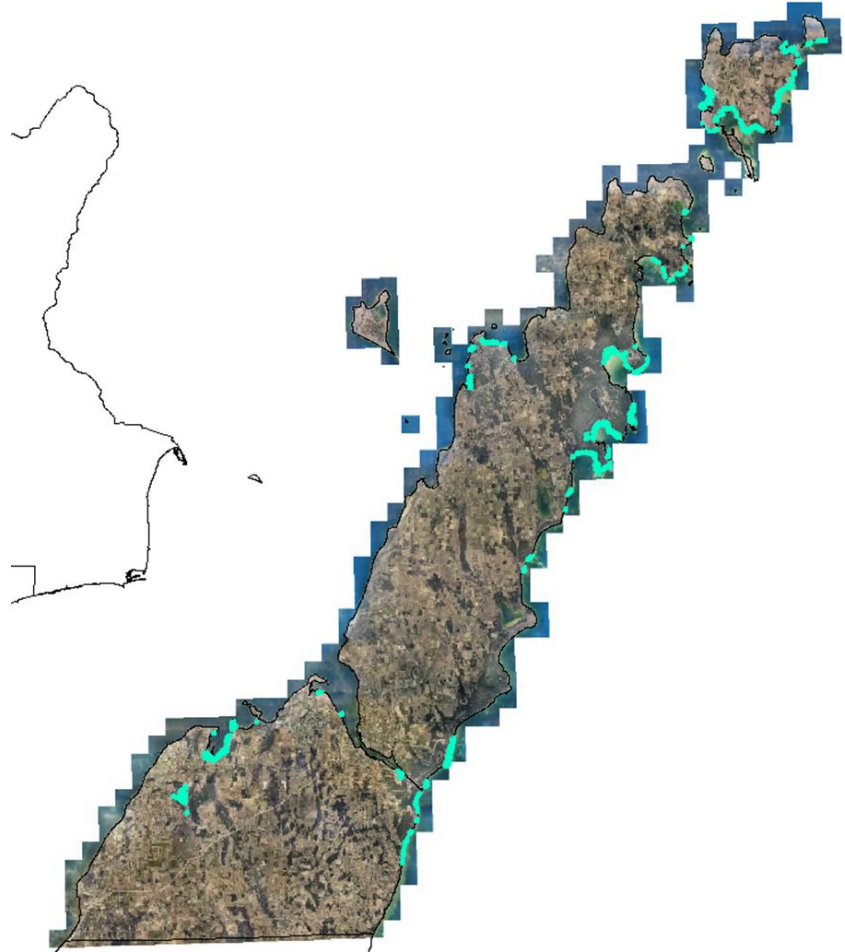


Forging a Path

WDNR GLRI Grant – 2011-2013



- 300 acres of Phragmites treated within conservation opportunity areas
- Rallied entire partnership around one project
- Many volunteer hours
- Provided a framework for the future Phragmites work we would accomplish

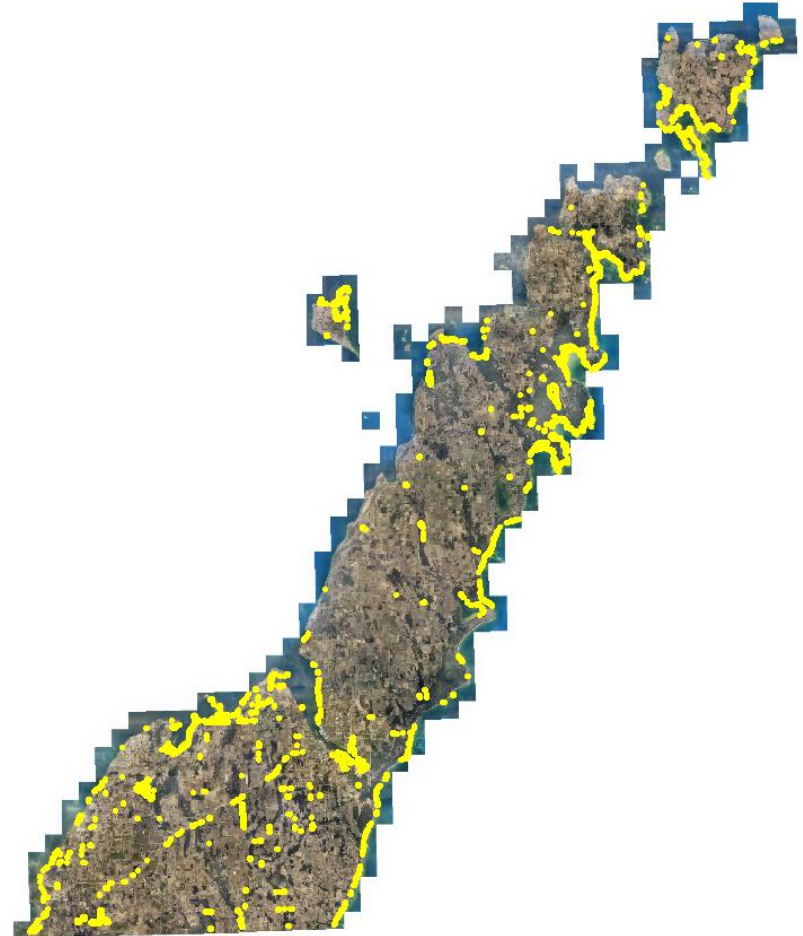


The Golden Years ...of funding 2011-2016



- Section 7 (endangered species)
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- State/Federal Coastal
- State AIS Funding
- USFS
- Donations – private & townships

And we were prepared to use it!



Challenges

2011-2016



- Project burnout
- Aging volunteer base (who put in A LOT of hours previously)
- Limited staff time and resources among partners
- New invasive species
- Stiff grant competition



Bringing it back to “Local”

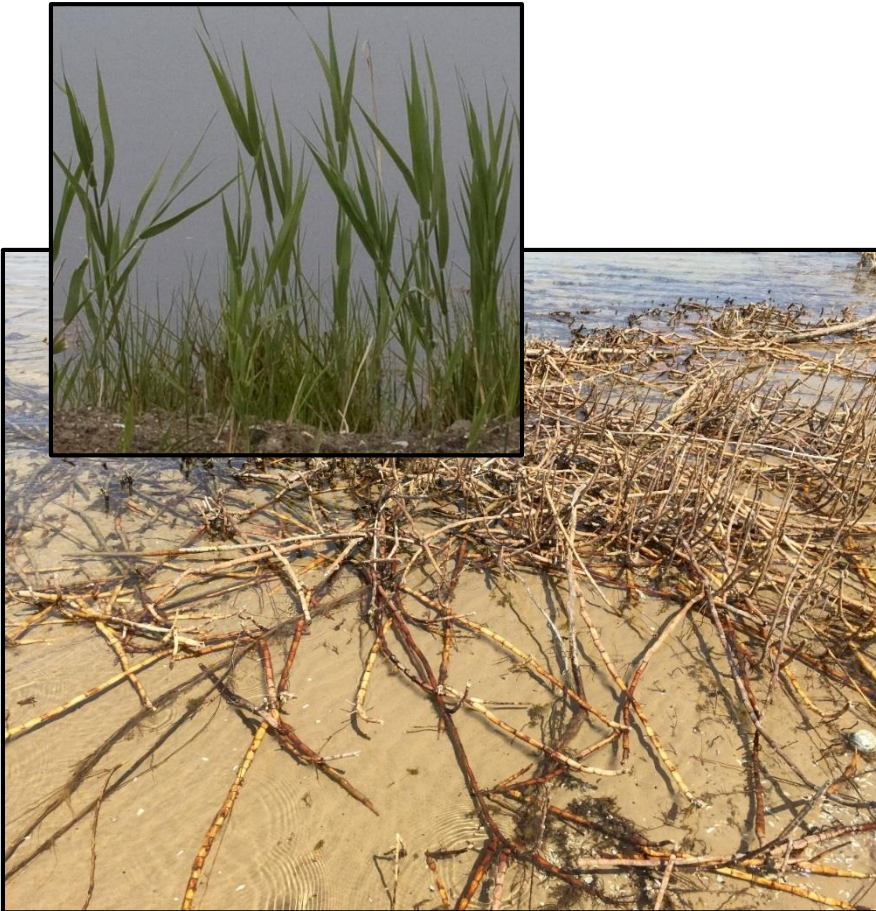
2014-2016



“Didn’t you take care of all them Phragmites?”

- Ensure previous time and funding was not wasted
- Towns were already financially invested in a lot of cases

Two towns initially passed Phragmites ordinances in 2014 and 2015.



Town of Jacksonport

2015-2016



“The Perfect Storm”

- Ordinance
- Local concern over Phragmites
- Willingness to fund/enforce
- Support of DCIST and framework in place
- SUCCESS!

Expanded in 2016 to inland areas!

Spread the Word!

2016



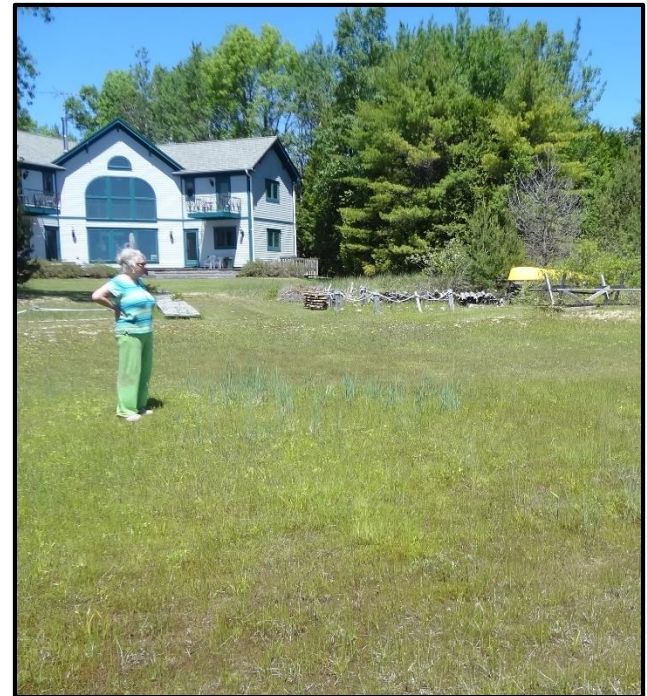
- New avenue for education and outreach on other species
- Lots of interest from local media and other groups/associations — opened door for further communication
- The City of Sturgeon Bay and the Town have both passed ordinances in 2016; many other Town boards are discussing

Overcoming Challenges

into the future



- Compiling database and prioritization (aka getting strategic)
- Exploring options for organization's structure and committees
- Bringing in new partners, engaging new groups/associations
- If it's not broken don't fix it — One-on-one landowner outreach
- The weed warriors are still out there! Find your champions!



Flexibility & Common Goals



- Follow the funding...or getting creative when it comes to finding/generating funding
- New ideas for working at varying scales – examples = SOGL wetland crew 2017-2018 (matching smaller scale work) & Gibraltar I.S. Challenge
- Mission is still education – you've got to keep yourselves invested to keep others invested
- **Luck = Opportunity + Preparedness**





Kari Hagenow – DCIST Coordinator
920-743-8695 ext. 306
dcist1@gmail.com

Krista Lutzke – Door County SWCD
920-746-2329
klutzke@co.door.wi.us