

## MEF PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT NAME: **Bond Falls Invasive Honeysuckle Control 2016**

CONTACT PERSON: **Ian Shackleford**

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PROJECT MANAGER:

Name: **Ian Shackleford**

Title: **Botanist**

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

**There is a 14.2-acre infestation of the non-native invasive shrub Bell's honeysuckle (*Lonicera X bella*) among the campsites on the north side of Bond Falls Reservoir. The site (Ottawa #2445) was first reported in 2005.**

**The Bond Falls Implementation Team has generously awarded two grants for the US Forest Service to work on this infestation: \$1,048.12 in 2014 and \$3,798.24 in 2015. We have not yet completed work on the original areas of thick honeysuckle bushes. Also, in 2015 we mapped additional areas with honeysuckle, increasing the size of the infestation from 5.2 acres to 14.2 acres. However, the additional acres are lightly infested, with just occasional bushes. More information is available in our 2015 report.**

**We are seeking funds to continue work in 2016. If we repeat the amount of work done in 2015, we could finish our first pass through the whole area in 2016, killing and removing all the large honeysuckle bushes. We would propose follow-up work in 2017, treating resprouts and missed stems.**

**We would continue to coordinate with Jarrod Nelson (UPPCO), James Melchiori (UPPCO), Kevin Poissant (UPPCO), and Butch & Arlene Lind (Campground and Recreation Area operators).**

**Non-native honeysuckle bushes out-compete native plants, forming monoculture thickets, as has happened here. Much of the Bond Falls infestation is in full sun, which allows the honeysuckle bushes to produce thousands of berries. Birds then spread the seeds, creating new honeysuckle infestations elsewhere. US Forest Service crews have been treating honeysuckle infestations on the Ottawa National Forest for several years.**

**Work would continue as was begun in 2014. We would cut down the stems and apply a glyphosate herbicide to the stumps to kill the roots and prevent resprouting, following label direction. We could pile the stems on nearby National Forest land, for burning in the winter. The members of the invasive plant crew are all Michigan-certified pesticide applicators. This cut-stump method removes the thick branches, and the cut stems soak up the herbicide quickly, limiting risk to applicators and visitors. In**

some areas, away from roads and campsites, we may foliar spray bushes with glyphosate herbicide, reducing the amount of time needed to control the infestation.

We estimate five people working eight days would be enough to finish a first pass through the infestation. Checking areas treated in 2014 we have found just few and scattered resprouts and missed stems. Honeysuckle does not return vigorously from seed, so little additional work would be needed to keep the site free of honeysuckle.

As promised in our previous grant applications, we will plant trees (white spruce and red pine) in treated areas in the spring of 2016. We will also survey all the Bond Falls shoreline and UPPCO roads at Bond Falls for exotic honeysuckle bushes, as well as other terrestrial non-native invasive plants.

For more information on exotic honeysuckle, see the Wisconsin DNR pamphlet “Invasive Exotic Shrub Honeysuckles: Major Threats to Midwestern Woodlands.”

<http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/fr/fr0448.pdf>

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION: 46.4062° -89.0845°

The honeysuckle infestation is on the north side of Bond Falls Reservoir, at the east end. The infestation is near campsites E12, E13, E14, and E16, and one of the Bond Falls boat ramps. Bushes occur on both sides of Calderwood Road (Forest Road 5350).

**PROJECT SCHEDULE:**

We would treat the bushes on weekdays, over eight to fourteen days between June and September 2016. Work would be performed by US Forest Service certified pesticide applicators. We would notify UPPCO staff when we are working on their property.

**PROJECT BUDGET:**

Person	Rate	BFIT Days	Request for BFIT	USFS days	Match from USFS	Total
Doug Bailey (GS-5)	\$130.48	6	\$782.88	2	\$260.96	\$1,108.88
Anthony Buchko (GS-4)	\$118.93	6	\$713.58	2	\$237.86	\$991.36
Invasive plant crew member (GS-4)	\$123.67	6	\$742.02	2	\$247.34	\$991.36
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Ian Shackleford	\$387.79	0	0	1	\$400.01	\$400.01
Herbicide (glyphosate product)			0	0	\$12.50	\$12.50
Supplies (loppers, saws)			\$27.48	0	\$46.65	\$74.13
	Total	<b>30</b>	<b>\$3750.00</b>		<b>\$1700.00</b>	<b>\$5,486.83</b>

REQUESTED FUNDING FROM MEF: We request \$3,750 from the BFIT. This would fund five people for six days of work, plus a small amount for tools.

**ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF FUNDING OR IN-KIND SERVICES: \$1,700 from USFS, for one day of Ian Shackelford’s time, ten days of invasive plant crew, herbicide, and tools. The USFS would also provide a vehicle, personal protective equipment, training for the crew, honeysuckle pamphlets, and the 50 trees promised in the original grant application.**

**PROJECT GOAL OR OBJECTIVES:**

**This project would remove non-native honeysuckle bushes from 14.2 acres of UPPCO property by Bond Falls Reservoir. Removing the honeysuckle would allow the nearby native shrubs and trees to fill in the site. As the site becomes more forested and shaded, it will be less suitable for vigorous honeysuckle growth. Planting conifers (white spruce and red pine) could help accelerate the return of natural forest habitat.**

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

**We would measure success by comparing the acres and canopy cover of exotic honeysuckle remaining by September 30 in 2016. We would also monitor the effectiveness of the treatment using the nationwide USFS invasive plant monitoring protocol:**

Code	Percent Efficacy	Rating	Description
0	0	No effect	No effect can be detected on the target species population
03	1-5	Failure	Little to no effect can be detected on the target species population
15	6-25	Poor	Treatment killed less than a quarter of the target species population
35	26-50	Marginal	Less than half of the target species population was controlled.
65	51-75	Fair	Over half of the target species population was controlled.
85	76-90	Good	Treatment was successful in killing most of the target species population.
95	91-99	Excellent	Over 95% of the target species population has been killed with the treatment.
100	100	Complete	Not a single individual of the target species population was found after a complete survey of the site. Infestation was eradicated.
UN	UNK	Unknown	Treatment efficacy/success cannot be determined.

**IDENTIFIED IN MDNR’S ONTONAGON RIVER ASSESSMENT**

**Two of the guiding principles of the 2008 Ontonagon River Assessment (MI DNR) are to “preserve native species” and “prevent the unintentional introduction of invasive species.” However, most of the assessment emphasizes aquatic invasive species such as sea lamprey and Eurasian watermilfoil.**

**This small project would allow local certified pesticide applicators to efficiently control a nuisance infestation of a terrestrial invasive plant on UPPCO land.**

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR PROGRESS AND FINAL REPORTS:**

**We would submit a final report by January 1, 2017.**

MAPS AND PICTURES



**Figure 1. Location of the honeysuckle infestation (updated 2015).**



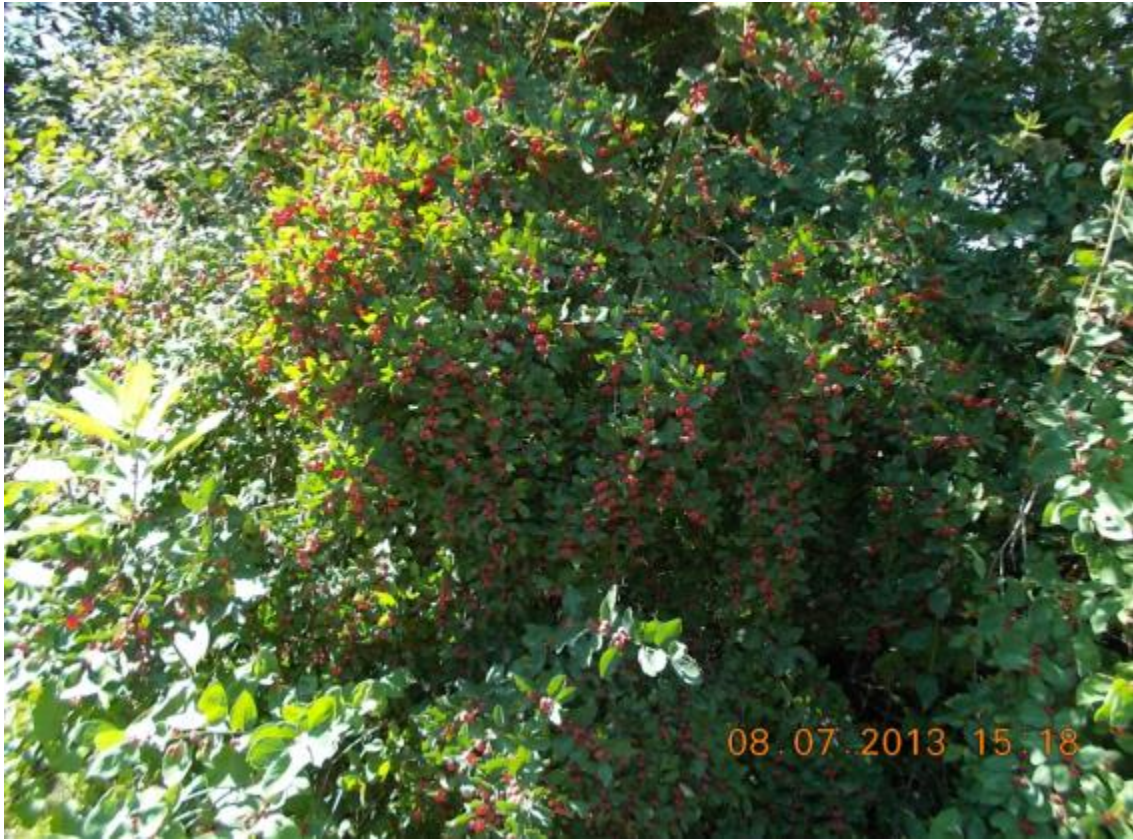
**Figure 2. Cut-stump method of honeysuckle control.**



Figure 3. Exotic honeysuckle near campsites E12 and E13.



Figure 4. Exotic honeysuckle with many fruits along path to outhouse.



**Figure 5. Sunny honeysuckle with many berries.**



**Figure 6. Clump of mostly honeysuckle along north side of road. These bushes were removed in 2015.**



Figure 7. Thicket of mostly honeysuckle along south side of road. These bushes were removed in 2015.

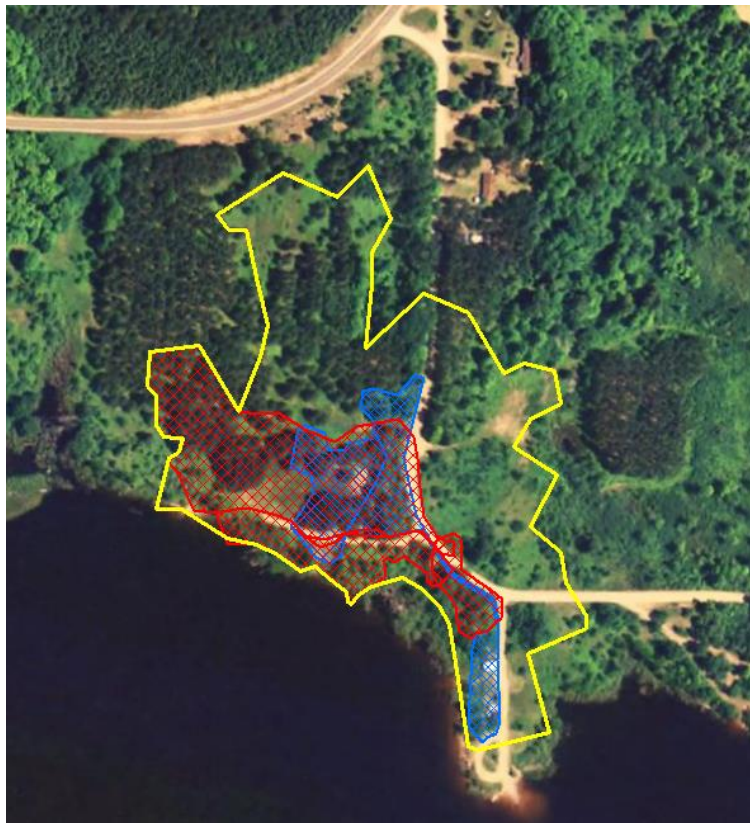


Figure 8. Updated infestation boundary (in yellow) and areas treated in 2014 (red) and 2015 (blue). Most of the remaining areas have just scattered bushes.