

ST. MARYS RIVER

BINATIONAL PUBLIC ADVISORY COUNCIL



December 2, 2014

Nick Cassel, EUP CWMA Coordinator
Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District
2847 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Dear Mr. Cassel,

The Bi-National Public Advisory Council (BPAC) for the St. Marys River Area of Concern supports the Eastern Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed Management Area (EUP CWMA) on the Eastern Upper Peninsula Cooperative Invasive Species Management Program. The St. Marys BPAC recognizes the negative impact invasive species can have on our watersheds and waterways and are committed to continuing collaborative efforts to prevent, identify, eradicate, and control invasive species throughout the watershed.

With the recent discovery of European Frog-bit in the Munuscong and Raber Bay Areas, as well as increasing occurrences of invasive Phragmites being found further north along the shoreline and wetland areas, the St. Marys BPAC feels it is increasingly important that effort be put forth towards early detection and rapid response as well as proper treatment, prevention, management, and control of invasive species in the St. Marys River. The objectives and goals of the proposed project by the EUP CWMA coincide with the goals of the St. Marys BPAC. We also recognize keeping non-native invasive species out of our watershed (and others) is an integral to step keeping our waterways healthy and allowing us to focus remediation efforts on other key issues in the St. Marys River.

The St. Marys BPAC supports the Eastern Upper Peninsula Cooperative Invasive Species Management Program and is pleased to provide this letter of support to show our willingness to collaborate with the EUP CWMA on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Marles, Canadian Chair
Binational Public Advisory Council for the St. Marys River RAP