



Detroit River Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area

Detroit River-Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area is seeking qualified applicants for the 2026 invasive species Strike Team. This work focuses on the removal of invasive species from coastal wetlands and prairie ecosystems along the Detroit River and Western Lake Erie Basin (Michigan only) in efforts to return them to native habitat to benefit wildlife and fish species.

The Detroit River-Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area (DR-WLE CWMA) is a partnership between 20+ federal, state, local, private, and non-profit partners to restore native habitats in imperiled coastal wetlands and lakeplain prairie. As a member of the Strike Team, duties include late spring and summer surveys of wetlands, prairies, and mesic forests, using GIS software to evaluate invasive species populations (size, density, treatment history, ecosystem quality) throughout the survey areas. Late summer and through mid-autumn, the strike team will engage in treatment and removal of invasive species, beginning with wetland plants before moving on to woody species.

Throughout the year, the Strike Team engages in active outreach through social media and attending community events to provide educational outreach. Strike Team members work closely with a variety of partner organizations on their respective lands to perform invasive plant management. This is a field-based position, the Strike Team spends 75% of the spring, summer, and autumn outside, hiking, wading, and kayaking. **Please note: no housing is provided during employment period.**

Duties:

- Early Detection and Rapid Response of invasive species
- Treatment of invasive species by following Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plans and Best Management Practices
- Mapping using ArcPro and Field Maps to track invasive species populations and treatments
- Distribution of educational materials to the public and special event attendance to promote invasive species management
- Use of various methods to treat invasive species, including backpack sprayers, cut stump treatments, mowing vegetation, and treatment from a UTV or Marsh Master
- Content creation for the organizations Facebook and Instagram

Pay Rate: Strike Team technicians are a contracted position and will be paid \$16/hour for 40 hours/week, receiving a 1099-NEC tax form. This is a seasonal position, running from April 13th- December 3rd, 2026. The Strike Team works Monday-Thursday for 10 hours each day through the field season. Duty station is

located at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge John D. Dingell Jr. Visitor Center at 5437 W Jefferson Avenue, Trenton, MI 48183.

A qualified applicant will have:

Required:

- Ability to lift and carry 25 pounds for long periods of time
- Willingness to obtain commercial pesticide applicators license
- Willingness and ability to work long hours and in adverse conditions
- Bachelor's degree (either completed or in progress) in a related field (natural resources, environment, biology, wildlife, forestry, etc.)
- Valid driver's license
- A positive attitude and ability to work cohesively on a team

Preferred:

- Plant identification skills, especially through a dichotomous key
- Experience with ArcGIS software (Pro/Desktop, Collector, Field Maps)
- Experience with data collection in the field
- Experience with herbicide treatment and backpack sprayers
- Current Michigan commercial pesticide applicator license

Skills and trainings gained through this position:

- Plant identification in a field setting
- Use of GIS software
- Michigan Commercial Pesticide Applicator License
 - Experience mixing and applying concentrated herbicides
 - Proper pesticide handling techniques to maximize safety
- Environmental education and outreach
- **Potential** training opportunity for
 - Biological/habitat/ecosystem management

Please email a single PDF document, containing (1) a one-page cover letter that includes a summary of your interests, experiences, and why you feel you are qualified for this position, (2) your CV or resume, and (3) contact information for three references to jessica_davenport@fws.gov.

Deadline for applications is February 27th, 2026. Applications will be reviewed, and interviews will occur on a rolling basis. All applicants will be informed upon a final decision.