

# Determining Invasive Plant Hot Spots in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore to Inform Early Detection and Rapid Response Initiatives

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## **Abstract:**

Management of invasive plant species can be a high continual cost in terms of treatment, therefore prevention and early detection efforts are key to protecting natural areas. A tool in the arsenal of natural resource management: modeling, for invasive species in regions of lessened human impact i.e. in parks and wilderness areas creates opportunities to find trends in dispersal and increased density of invasive species to then pre-emptively assess and promote restoration efforts in order to keep out invaders. In this study “hotspots” were evaluated using the loglikelihood calculated for invasive plant diversity per square meter of trail surveyed in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, and significant environmental variables were assessed. The effort of this project was to determine the utility of invasive plant data collected from an Early Detection and Rapid Response program and subsequent survey during May 2018 - August 2018 for the development of a hot spot detection tool using most common species present on North and South Manitou Island in the National Lakeshore. Model results are limited in their use due to the limits of the data collected which contains high variability due to environmental variables and potential outside confounding factors since no ground-truthing has been evaluated. However, data provided from this project helps indicate regions that may have high potential for invasion and confirms some anecdotal observations of species occurrences. Additionally, recommendations from this project can be utilized to design data collection in future programs that is both rapid and can be utilized more effectively to model, evaluate, and manage invasive species hotspots with more accuracy in the future.

## **Introduction:**

Invasive species are one of the major threats to local biodiversity and ecosystem function (Powell et al 2013). The cost of managing invasive plant species has been estimated to be \$120 Billion each year (Pimentel et al. 2005). The most effective management option for prevention of invasive species spread and ensuing damage is the prevention of their establishment in the first place (Sheley et al 2015). Early detection has increasingly become a focus for management in the US, since 2004 the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds implemented a National Early Detection and Rapid Response System for Invasive Plants (Westbrooks 2004, FICMNEW 2003). Early detection helps to prevent ecological damage and importantly the rising costs of management.

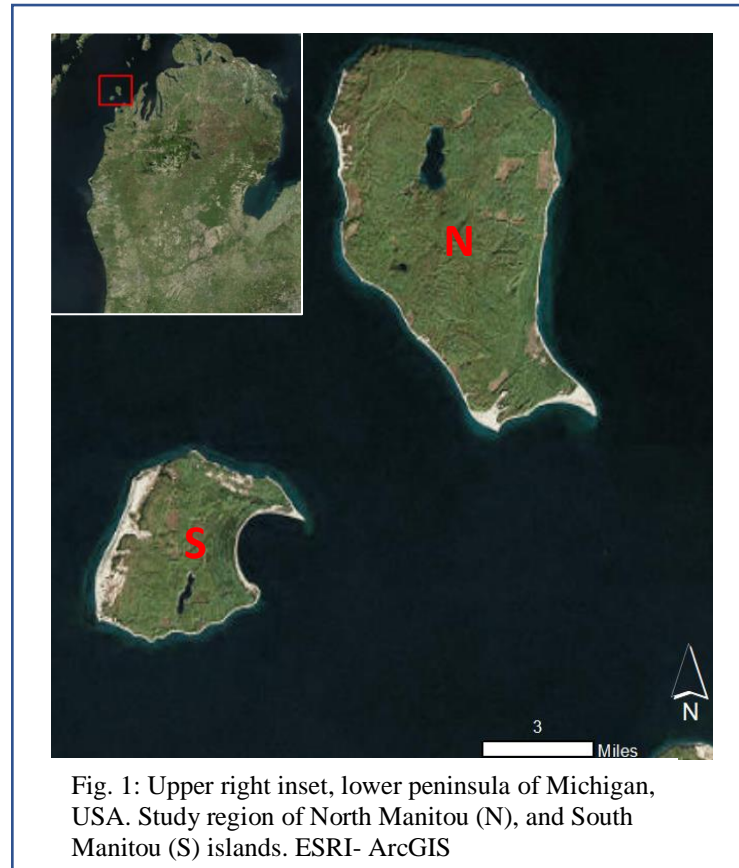
An emerging tool in the management of invasive species is modeling for identification of areas most likely to host invasive species, in that way early detection efforts can be targeted and become more effective (Bazzichetto et al. 2015, Addison et al. 2013). Analysis of areas of high concentration of already established non-natives could also be

pivotal for tracking “sleeper” weeds, able to proliferate in novel environments due to climate change factors (Daisy et al. 2013). Management can then be guided by identifying hot spots of invasive plant diversity that can be targeted for early discovery and rapid elimination efforts. Early detection and eradication are the most effective strategies to truncate invasive species spread, and decrease risk of damage to the native community and the cost of continual management (Simberloff 2013).

Site factors that play into increased invasion risk have been found to be associated with man modified regions, close to urban areas, and roads, or disturbed natural communities and additionally have been considered the best predictor of their arrival with ideal habitat conditions for each individual species (Bazzichetto et al. 2015, Muthukrishnan 2018). However, determining high risk habitats for establishment based on environmental characteristics via niche modeling for individual species may not always have a clear result. Environmental characteristics may be widely varying due to the propensity for invasive species to exist in generalist-type environmental conditions (Evangelista 2008). Species characteristics also account for increased invasion risk, and may have a mixed proportion of importance in invasion, therefore modeling for invasion should be considered with care as interactions are complicated and can change with different timescales (Van Kleunen et al. 2011). Metrics for invasion are also highly dependent on morphological characteristics that can change in new environments or connected to inherent traits; these have included high biomass production across shade gradients, high rates of propagules, and other species attributes (Moravcová et al. 2015, Muthukrishnan et al. 2018).

Van Kleunen et al. (2011) proposed that landscape types have differing influence on different aspects of the invasion process. They found dispersal ability was high for species with high dispersal attributes through highly fragmented landscapes, and lower through less fragmented landscapes. Additionally, they found that species that were well established in many regions were less impacted by the spatial complexity and composition of the region, however at long time scales they found that the impact from environmental composition on long-term establishment for invasive species had increasing effect on their persistence (Van Kleunen et al. 2011). These interactions between inherent species characteristics and the invaded environments likely also play out for other exotic and introduced species.

The study region for this project was North and South Manitou islands part of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (SLBE) off of northwest coast of the lower peninsula of Michigan, USA (Figure 1). This island system, only foot traffic is allowed, makes this study site ideal for the identification of the environmental variables determining high concentration of invasive plants. Visitors and park rangers can only reach the island via the Manitou Island Transit ferry, with only one port of entry per island; camping is allowed at specific sites on South Manitou, whereas backcountry camping is allowed on North Manitou; foot traffic is mainly relegated to the trail system; hence trails can easily be surveyed. All these features reduce the number of confounding factors determining invasive species spread and establishment, allowing a better characterization of the environmental features driving invasions, and potential comparison between islands. We analyzed trail survey data for multiple invasive species with the purpose of identifying areas most likely to host introduced species that could then be targeted for early detection monitoring programs. In particular, We explored which environmental factors are most important to predict the presence and abundance of non-native and invasive species on the Manitou islands at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.



### **Methodology**

In this study we used trail survey data to determine and predict factors that contribute to establishment of invasive species. The method of using trail survey data allows for fast identification of plants along areas that may have high spread potential due to human traffic.

A combination of trail survey data with environmental data and landcover data was then be used to aid with the identification of areas likely to be colonized by non-native species.

## **Data Sources**

### Field Survey

The data for this project comes from the National Park Service – Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, citizen science data from Michigan Invasive Species and Inventory Network, and US Geological Survey data for an early detection hotspot model (MISIN). The field survey consisted of a direct visual search, and was implemented following specific steps: Upon discovery of an invasive plant, a GPS waypoint was taken. Then a visual search began perpendicular to the GPS location along the trail. Each GPS waypoint was given a unique identifier, and a six-letter genus-species code standard for SLBE (e.g. *Epipactus helleborine* translates as EPIHEL). Using Garmin Vista HCx GPS units, the final data inputs were strings of 13 characters: four-digit date, three-digit ID, six-digit Genus/Species code. Distance Classes were used to show area of spread relative to the pathway. Densities were represented numerically, while vegetative type and phenology were coded with letters.

Density per distance ( $D_x$ ) was taken perpendicular from edge of trail or coastline:

D<sub>1</sub>: 00-02 m   D<sub>2</sub>: 02-10 m   D<sub>3</sub>: 10-20 m   D<sub>4</sub>: Over 20 m.

**The values 0-4 were used to represent densities at the respective distance class:**

0: 0%      1: 1-5%      2: 5-25%      3: 25-50%      4: Over 50%.

**Vegetative Type data (T) was divided into three categories:**

H: Herbaceous      G: Grass      W: Woody

**Phenological data (P) was notated in the following six designations according to Type:**

V: Vegetative (H/G/W)                      D: Dead (H/G/W)  
Se: Seeding/Seedling (H/G/W)            Sa: Sapling (W)  
F: Flowering (H/G/W)                      M: Mature (W).

Overall in the survey, there were a total of 1,722 GPS observations, which were utilized subsequently in model development after spatial data orientation methods, and are publicly accessible through Michigan Invasive Species Inventory and Network database (MISIN).

#### Ancillary Data Integration

Arc Geographical Information System (ver. 10.6.1) was used as a geospatial analytical tool in the initial data process to align environmental data with ancillary raster data. The ancillary data included soils, topographic wetness index, and data trail length. All data was 30m<sup>2</sup> resolution and compiled utilizing a gridded 90m<sup>2</sup> polygon layer from the Fishnet Tool in the Spatial Analyst toolbox.

Landcover was assessed originally for classifications used from the Nation Land Cover Database from the GAP/LANDFIRE National Terrestrial Ecosystems 2011 coverage (GAP/LANDFIRE 2011). The landcovers assessed from the National Land Cover Database were determined to be insignificant and, in an effort, to reduce environmental data variability they were re-classified based on the Michigan Land Cover/Use Classification System to be utilized at a more basic level-II classification and the reclassification is reported in appendix Table 3. (“Michigan Land Cover/Use Classification System”).

The soils layer was retrieved from the USGS National Resource Conservation Survey (NRCS) which included Soil polygon layer at the soil-series level (“NRCS”), and later assessed at a soil order level to reduce variability in the model.

Topographic Wetness Index (TWI) calculated from ArcGIS raster calculator from a bare-earth digital elevation model (with slope raster and flow accumulation as intermediate raster products) from USGS data portal with 30m resolution using calculation below (USGS Science Data Catalog (SDC)”, “Topographic Wetness Index”).

$$\text{Ln}(\text{"FLOWACC"} * 900) / \text{Tan}(\text{"SLOPE"})$$



TWI was used as a proxy for soil moisture. In this coastal glacial region there is high sand soil content with perched glacial formed dunes, forested duneland, and a mix of soil conditions and percolation due to topography and hydrology, therefore a metric that includes hydrologic factors may be appropriate and it has been used for vegetative ecology previously (Kopecky et al 2011).

Arc GIS Trail layer data was included from trail layer publicly available from National Park Service, Integrated Resource Management Applications- IRMA website (IRMA, Struthers 1999). This layer was used to normalize the invasive species count data by trail length surveyed in order to utilize the model to evaluate other regions other than those that have trails. The results of this process for number of invasive species per meter of trail surveyed can be seen in Appendix Figure 1 and 2 for NMI and SMI.

Data was integrated using the spatial join tools in ArcGIS. All data was 30m<sup>2</sup> resolution and compiled utilizing a gridded 90m<sup>2</sup> polygon layer from the Fishnet Tool in the Spatial Analyst toolbox. The non-native species occurrence data was arranged to include 3 by 3 of 30m raster cells for other environmental data sampling and fit using the Fishnet tool to create 90m<sup>2</sup> cells containing this information (ESRI 2018). A total of 12332 polygons from the Fishnet tool were created and intersected with an island buffer of 90 meters from the islands using the NRCS soil polygon outline layer as indication of appropriate terrestrial and aquatic designation. Separation of informative and non-informative data polygons was necessary for data analysis and model building. A total of 1932 polygons of trail data were used that accounted for surveyed trail, lake, and beach data from 12332 polygons total accounting for a study region of approximately 11.10 km<sup>2</sup>.

The survey methods presented were used for EDRR trail survey and adapted for use in the analysis with two parts, a presence/absence data averaged by fishnet tool polygons and controlled for amount of trail used by species number divided by trail length, as well as an aspect that fits suitability of a polygon site based on these environmental variables.

Overall 14 species were selected out of 59 surveyed in the inventory for the model development, these 14 species accounted for 75.96% of the noted occurrence data in the survey, for a total of 1308 of 1722 observations (Appendix Table 2). The species not utilized accounted for less than 2% of total occurrence/species, which was less than 30 observations per species. Use of these prevalent species was due to their larger sample sizes, to reduce

variability in the model output, and overall likelihood of invasive process establishment in the region (Appendix Table 2).

### Previous Model Data

This additional model information is presented to show all environmental variables that were considered in the project including significant environmental variables that may be used in additional projects and programs for predicting invasive species presence. The same methods as above were used for TWI, Soil orders, Land cover using the Michigan-III classification layers, and included two additional variables for Human Impact Distance and island (in the binomial model to predict differences in species presence per island), respectively. The Human Impact Distance layer was sourced from IRMA and contained locations of Recreation on North and South Manitou Islands that represented official camping and fishing locations (only one fishing location on each island, associated with the inland lakes) (2 on NMI, 4 on SMI) (Struthers K 2001). Subsequently, this layer was used to create the variable Human Impact Distance by measuring Euclidean distance from each cell centroid to these locations calculated separately for each island. Models resulting from this variable found this to be insignificant and was not included in the final models.

### Data analysis

For model development we used hierarchical Bayesian inference with Markov-Chain Monte-Carlo from OpenBUGS(Ver. 3.2.3) software for parameter estimation and to run this model (OpenBUGS 2019, Gelfand et al. 1990, Lund et al. 2009). All models were evaluated using deviance information criterion (DIC), and adj.  $R^2$  values (Spiegelhalter 2014).

The model we used is a mixed effects model Zero Inflated Poisson which is a two-fold model, where a binomial model is used due to inflated zeros in the distribution of the data, then count data is modelled through a Poisson distribution. First all zeros are separated by positive count data in order to assign occurrence of an invasive plant, then secondary to assign abundance of plant species per trail length and other predictors included in the poisson model (Zuur et al. 2009).

Species abundance at each polygon (*i*) was controlled for by using abundance divided by trail-length and analyzed including a Poisson distribution which is commonly used in

vegetative presence models (Renner et al. 2013, Wang et al. 2018, Aarts et al. 2012). The likelihood from species presence was determined from a binomial process model that subsequently feeds into a logit process model giving the likelihood of species abundance based on predictor variables: soil type (included 21 general soil types classified to series level), topographic wet index (TWI), Island type (1= North Manitou, 2 = South Manitou) and land cover (11 types- USGS classification soil series). The best resulting model is presented here:

$$\underline{No. species}_i \sim \underline{Zero Inflated Poisson}(\lambda_i)$$

$$\ln(\lambda_i) = \alpha_{Soil\ type\ (i)} + b_i * TWI + u_i$$

$$\underline{Species\ Presence} \sim \underline{Binomial}(\omega 0_i)$$

$$\underline{Logit}(\omega 0_i) = \beta + w * Trail\_Length[i]$$

Land cover types were included during previous model development and it was determined that at NLCD vegetation types in the previous model that these classes were not significant and were removed to develop a better indication of invasion and establishment of these plant species for this model. Later these classes were reclassified to Michigan Landcover Level-III to reduce variability see Appendix Table 3 (“Michigan Land Cover/Use Classification System”). A few vegetation types did become influential with soil types layered at simpler than class III levels, but improvement led to using soil types at the soil order level.

#### Additional Model Analyses

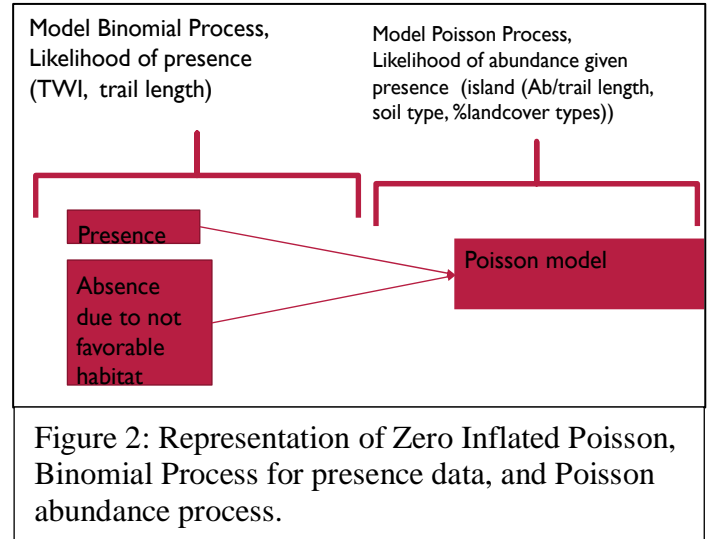
Model presented below was evaluated containing other relevant variables and is provided for context in the assessment of the other variables that were considered in this model development.

$$\underline{No. species}_i \sim \underline{Zero Inflated Poisson}(\lambda_i)$$

$$\ln(\lambda_i) = \alpha_{Soil\ type\ (i)} + b_i * TWI + c_i * Landcover + d_i * HumanImpactDistance + u_i$$

$$\underline{Species\ Presence} \sim \underline{Binomial}(\omega 0_i)$$

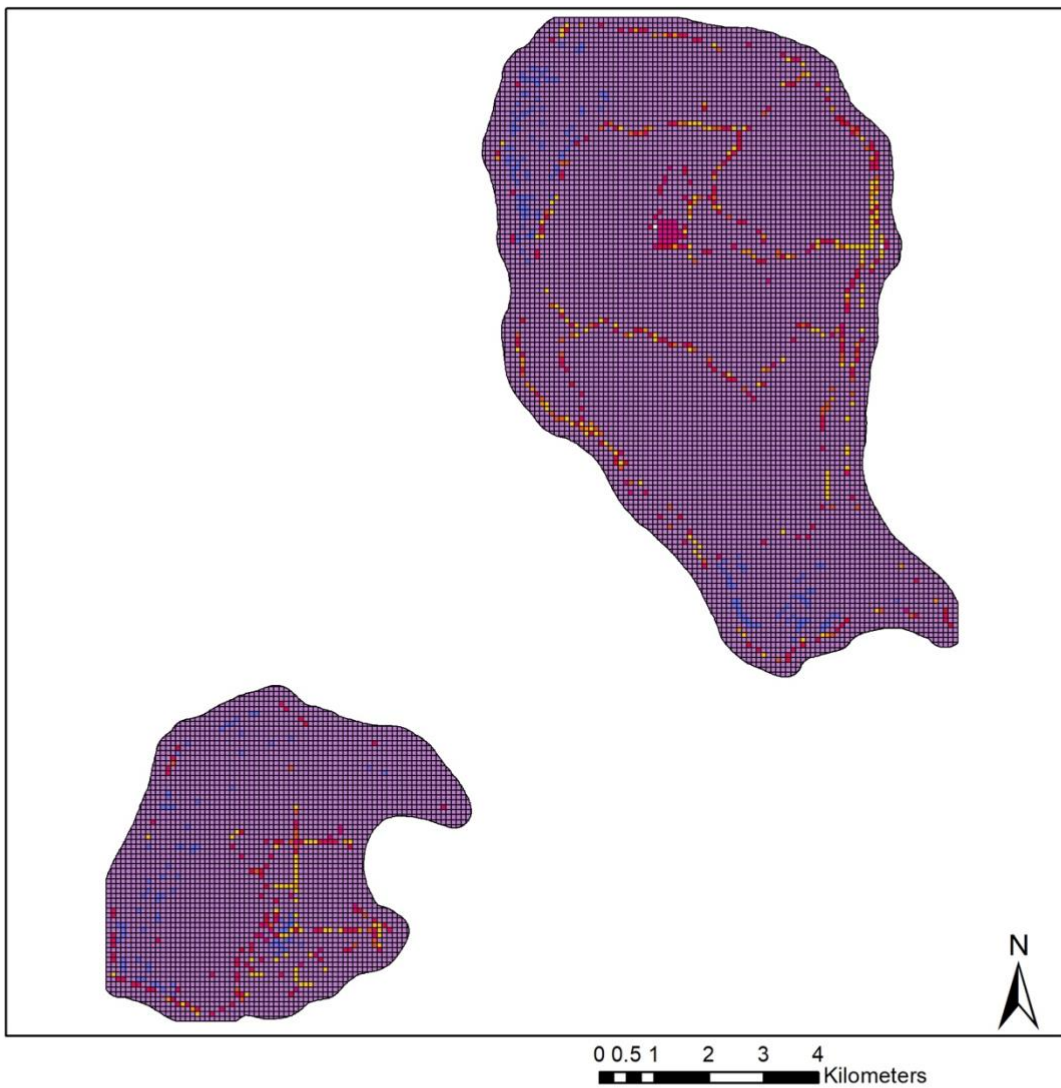
$$\underline{Logit}(\omega 0_i) = \beta_{(island\ (i))} + w * Trail\_Length[i]$$



**Results:**

The best fit model developed ran 300,000 iterations and summary statistics for parameters were generated with the last 50,000 iterations with a DIC (at node Zero): 255.5, and an adjusted  $R^2$  of 0.018 (Appendix Table 1). We found that there were regions of higher likelihood for plant invasion across the 90m trail polygon regions presented in Figure 3. In addition, all soil data was significant though none were significantly different from each other (Figure 4). The (b) parameter value of TWI for the abundance was not significant with mean -91.6 and 95% CI of (-233.7,-4.441). The parameter (w) for trail length in presence was significant as expected since this denotes the presence of trail associated with invasive species found. For each ( $\alpha$ ) soil type parameter all were significant from zero, but not significant between soil types (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Polygon points for LogLikelihood of Invasive Species abundance for each 90m<sup>2</sup> region. Manitou Island Predicted Log Likelihood for Invasive Plant Species



**Loglikelihood of Invasive Species Presence**  
**1/2 Standard Deviations**

- < -2.8 Std. Dev. (-2.06400000 -- -0.138957426)
- 2.8 - -2.3 Std. Dev. (-0.138957425 -- -0.116273776)
- 2.3 - -1.8 Std. Dev. (-0.116273775 -- -0.093590127)
- 1.8 - -1.3 Std. Dev. (-0.093590126 -- -0.070906477)
- 1.3 - -0.75 Std. Dev. (-0.070906476 -- -0.048222828)
- 0.75 - -0.25 Std. Dev. (-0.048222827 -- -0.025539178)
- 0.25 - 0.25 Std. Dev. (-0.025539177 -- -0.002855529)
- 0.25 - 0.26 Std. Dev. (-0.002855529 -- -0.002393000)

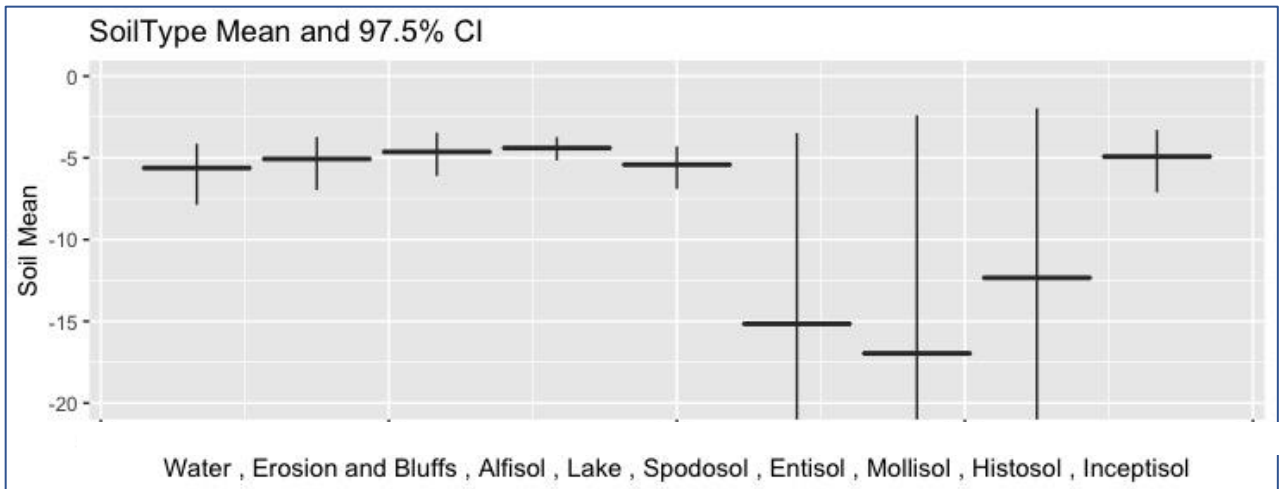
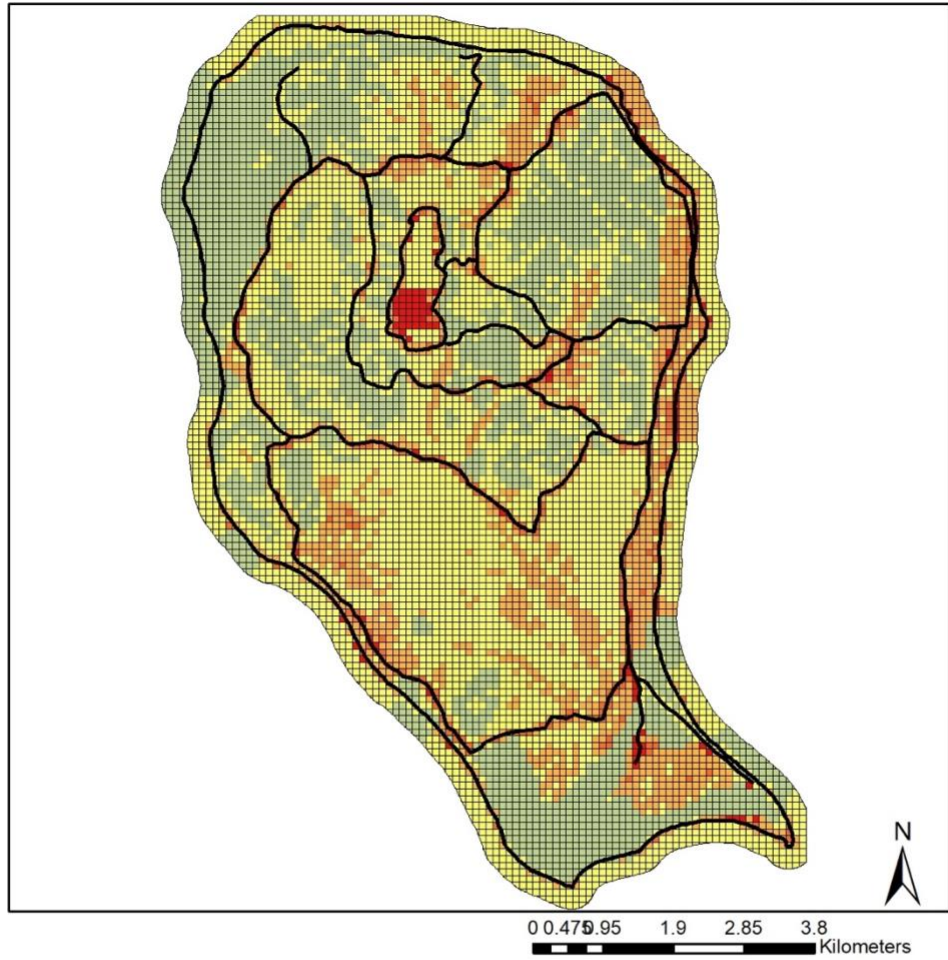


Figure 4: Soil types (Soil Key in Appendix), all were significant from zero and not significantly different between soil types.

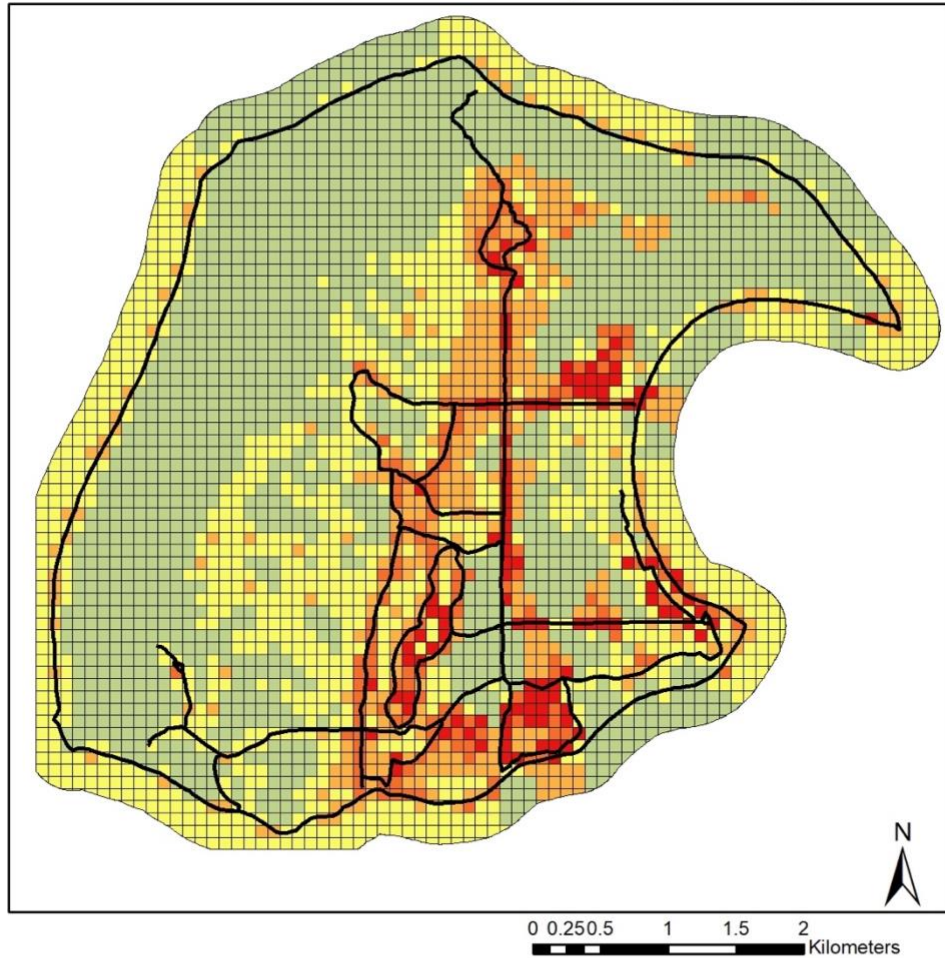
Figure 5: Best fit model result for NMI invasive plant species hotspots  
 North Manitou Island Hotspots -  
 Predicted Invasive Plant Richness Divided by Trail Length Per Polygon



**Invasive Plant Hotspots**

- Official Trails of Sleeping Bear Dunes
- Predicted Invasive Plant Richness/Trail Length per 90 sq. m**
- < -0.50 Std. Dev. (0.002393000 -- 0.005851006)
- 0.50 - 0.50 Std. Dev. (0.005851007 -- 0.010242431)
- 0.50 - 1.5 Std. Dev. (0.010242432 -- 0.019025281)
- 1.5 - 2.5 Std. Dev. (0.014633857 -- 0.019025281)
- > 2.5 Std. Dev. (0.019025282 -- 0.117500000)

Figure 6: Best fit model result for SMI invasive plant species hotspots  
 South Manitou Island Hotspots -  
 Predicted Invasive Plant Richness Divided by Trail Length Per Polygon



**Invasive Plant Hotspots**

— Official Trails of Sleeping Bear Dunes

**Predicted Invasive Plant Richness/Trail Length per 90 sq. m**

- < -0.50 Std. Dev. (0.002393000 -- 0.005851006)
- 0.50 - 0.50 Std. Dev. (0.005851007 -- 0.010242431)
- 0.50 - 1.5 Std. Dev. (0.010242432 -- 0.019025281)
- 1.5 - 2.5 Std. Dev. (0.014633857 -- 0.019025281)
- > 2.5 Std. Dev. (0.019025282 -- 0.117500000)



### Additional Model Results

Additional results from model development are presented due to their insights into significant and nonsignificant environmental variables considered. Due to potential differences between North Manitou and South Manitou Islands from deer populations, visitor stay duration, and activities it made sense to separate the effects of the islands for species presence, however later analysis determined this was not significant for the presence of the invasive species surveyed. There was no significant difference between earlier presence models for the two islands with overlapping 95% Confidence Interval (CI) for NMI, and SMI. Indicating that for this model and evaluation there is no difference between the invasive plant likelihood for presence. The effect of human impact distance in these models was also determined to be insignificant.

There were a few significant variables found for a previous model that were not included in the best fit model. These variables were from the Landcover dataset, the inclusion of these variables increased the DIC by 12.5 points and decreased the resulting Adj. R<sup>2</sup> values when included with soil and TWI (Appendix Table 1). The significant landcovers were two types which can include four landcover types if evaluated at two standard deviations (pvalue=.10, 90% CI). The two landcovers are Hardwood forest and Conifer, and the four include (3 & 7) Wetland, and Grass Forb regeneration. In this same model soil type Mollisols became significantly different from the other soil types, which is typically associated with grassland and are highly fertile soils potentially indicating an ease of invasion for the Forb Grass landcover community.

### **Discussion:**

The purpose of this study was to determine probability of invasive presence and abundance dependent upon environmental characteristics from a trail survey. The use of trail surveys is a quick and succinct way to collect data for new invasive threats and to address established populations that should be managed. For the purpose of quick data collection to evaluation this methodology seems utilitarian for regions with large trail systems and lend insight into the future invasive species management by determining probability of invasion

and abundance of species in the region. The use of Bayesian analysis for this data allows for more data flexibility including estimation of missing variables to be included and use of other survey data or management data to be included in future studies.

There are specific limitations of the model used, specifically due to range of observations for species, for example only one emergent aquatic species (*Phragmites australis*) was noted, and very few woody plant species such as *Syringa vulgaris*, *Robinia pseudoacacia*, and *Populus nigra*, therefore this model may not truly represent the selective environmental factors behind all potential shrub and tree species that are present or may become present in the future. The results of this model indicate that there is not a significant difference in presence of invasive plant species between the two islands with overlapping confidence intervals. This may be attributed to the spatial proximity that these islands share which may share similar introduction of invasive plant species and disturbances to their similar soils and vegetation, or due in part to large environmental variability present in aggregation of the data. Additionally, some differences in future models may detect a difference based on the presumption of differing human impacts between the islands; where South Manitou receives day trip visitors from the ferry (higher foot traffic) and has camping only at three campgrounds across the island, North Manitou is mostly wilderness designated and has backcountry camping across the entirety of the island, therefore disturbances of hiking and camping may have similar impact and be spatially distinct between the two. A camping and invasive species study could highlight the effect of backcountry invasives spread. In addition, North Manitou Island has a population of non-native Pennsylvania (originating) deer which forage across the island and may affect the spread certain invasive species and potential for additional presence differences between the islands though once again we did not find any island differences in previous model and in current model.

Examining the loglikelihood map in Figure 3, there is a large portion of the purple regions where there is seemingly very little difference in most of the island data and relatively equal likelihood for invasion, though it is below the mean likelihood. Since much of these areas are interior to the islands some of this evenness may be due to common soil types or average ranges of TWI which may not affect invasive species due to the typical generalist characteristics that many invasive species possess (Evangelista 2008). There are higher loglikelihoods that are associated with most of the trail regions, and a few lower

loglikelihoods which seems to be associated with higher elevation and lower TWI portions of the Island in blue.

In Figures 5 and 6, the predictions of the model are presented using a standard deviation value. This method of separation is to help comparatively whether a site has higher or lower invasive species (in terms of number of invasive species per meter trail) potential. We can see in both maps that there are concentrated areas in central common use trail areas the eastern portion of NMI which may be associated with the location of the Manitou Island Transit ferry. Additionally, a large area in the middle of NMI which is associated with Lake Manitou which had a concentrated presence of non-native phragmites and may be driving this hotspot in particular (it is also one of the few aquatic emergent species surveyed). In the central regions of NMI, there are yellow to red portions of areas that also align with former agricultural fields and farmlands through observation, which may be a future relationship to explore in management. There are regions in green which are relatively less prone to invasive species presence and these are in more remote regions of the island that have higher elevation and sloped areas, potentially making them inaccessible to human traffic and spread of invasives (or less disturbance facilitated invasion of invasive species). In SMI there are also “hot” regions in the area where the ferry and subsequently visitors arrive, on the eastern lower end (south end of Crescent bay). Additionally, there are areas in the interior that are high in the central trails’ areas, and are green as distance to trails increase, and the slope/elevation increase in the western portion of the island. A hot spot is also associated with Florence lake on the island, potentially due to phragmites and the detection on NMI. In comparison to the initial values of invasives on NMI and SMI, it appears that SMI may have higher potential for invasion based on the analysis presented here.

Common and widely established species may share preference for a variety of habitats assessed. The management implications of this analysis show likely regions for species to invade and establish however this model indicates that there is a similarity of most areas to be likely invaded based on current species presence. This model is only a snapshot of the invasion process due to the fact that only the most observed species were included and other species that may invade without high localized abundance, or are in the early stages of invasion may not be clearly noted by this result, additional analysis of models may help to determine where species may settle out in higher abundances over time and their potential

presence due to human impact. Additionally, soil and landcover layers were used from secondary sources whereas systematic soil sampling and landcover classification on site may help guide more precise data relationships and decrease some of the variability in the model.

In the previous model assessing landcover types, most of the trails are within Hardwood and Conifer landcover with areas on NMI and SMI covered by Hardwood (8 million sq. meters) and Conifer forests (189 thousand sq. m). Therefore, the significance of Hardwood especially may be due in part from the sheer presence of area that is associated with invasive plants species, though additional data collection may prove or disprove these considerations. The inclusion of Wetland and Grass Forb generation areas with 90% CI, can tell us that other wetland attributes other than TWI, the canopy cover, or disturbance (in the case of Grass and Forb areas) likely influence the establishment of invasive plant species as well.

Despite the restrictions on the best fit model, the previous models also contain variables that can provide additional information relevant to future model developments, studies, and invasive species management. Despite a higher DIC value and lower Adj.  $R^2$  the results of lesser models can still show environmentally relevant data through significance in variables assessed in model evaluation.

### **Conclusion:**

No single model is superior in all circumstances (Elith et al 2006). This model accounts for fourteen common species in potentially different stages of invasion, with a trend towards species actively invading and becoming established, or have already been naturalized for a long period of time. Other species-specific models may be more accurate when concerned for individual species however increasingly we have available data that does not fit standard modeling designs therefore use of Bayesian modeling may be beneficial into future management initiatives. Use of trail data may be beneficial to assess the likelihood for presence and establishment in the future, additional data (landcover, distance-human impact, and additional GPS occurrence data) could improve this model. The predicted dataset from evaluating a zero inflated Poisson led to a low  $R^2$  value for these models, which can be explained in part due to the model inability to reflect the distribution of zero values in the predicted dataset and insensitivity to working with small values in the order of  $10^{-3}$ . In order

to combat this issue relative values were compared using standard deviations from the mean to show potential for invasive species presence. To improve similar model development, this study suggests that use of trail survey or other common plant treatment data may be used for presence-absence models and may be improved with the additional refinement of soil, landcover characteristics, and human impact data. The trail survey adapted for this study used presence-only data for species, however, future studies with data points per individual plant may be a more robust adaptation of the model methodology presented in this study. For environmental data improvements, soil data variability could be reduced through systematic plot sampling throughout the study region if a trail survey is conducted, or through sampling the soil within vegetation plots systematically chosen in the study region. Additional environmental variables may also benefit a future model as shown with previous land cover analysis, there is likely benefits with inclusion of % canopy cover, field measured distance to disturbance (natural or human induced), or indications of native plant richness or diversity in regions which may explain whether occupation by native species may help to prevent invasive species establishment due to barriers to entry through competition.

With additional model development for rapid data collection and analysis, then the prediction of invasive species abundance across Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and other large natural areas could be more accurate in their assessments and rapid in their responses. The results of this effort present the findings that in addition to rapid trail surveys that using a systematic sampling study design may be more robust despite increased time for sampling and design, due to the lengthy model development, computational requirements, and increased data analysis time associated with trail surveys.

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## **APPENDIX FIGURES/TABLES**

**Table1: Model Evaluations:**

Models	DIC	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>
Model 1 Soil & TWI (Best)	Zeros: 255.5	0.01843
Model 2 Soil, TWI, Landcover	Zeros: 286.0	0.003422



**Table2: Included Species**\*=**Included in Model (14 most common species)**

GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME
Acer	platanoides	Norway maple
Anthriscus	sylvestris	Wild chervil
Arctium*	minus*	Lesser burdock*
Asparagus	officinalis	Garden asparagus
Berteroa	incana	Hoary alyssum
Bromus	inermis	Smooth brome
Centaurea	stoebe	Spotted knapweed
Chenopodium	album	Lambsquarters
Cirsium	arvense	Canada thistle
Convallaria	majalis	European lily of the valley
Cynoglossum	officinale	Houndstongue
Daucus	carota	Queen Anne's lace
Elaeagnus	umbellata	Autumn olive
Epipactis*	Helleborine*	Broadleaf helleborine*
Euphorbia	cyparissias	Cypress spurge
Hemerocallis	fulva	Orange daylily
Hieracium	aurantiacum	Orange hawkweed
Hieracium	caespitosum	Meadow hawkweed
Hypericum*	perforatum*	Common St. Johnswort*
Hylotelephium	telephium	Witch's moneybags
Iris	pseudacorus	Yellow flag iris
Lathyrus	latifolius	Perennial pea
Leymus	arenarius	Lymegrass
Leonurus	cardiaca	Common motherwort
Leucanthemum	vulgare	Oxeye daisy
Lilium	lancifolium	Tiger lily
Linaria	vulgaris	Butter and eggs
Lonicera	tatarica	Tatarian honeysuckle
Silene	coronaria	Rose campion
Melilotus*	albus*	White sweet clover*
Medicago	lupulina	Black medic
Mentha	xpiperita	Peppermint
Nepeta	cataria	Catnip
Phalaris*	arundinacea*	Reed canarygrass*
Phragmites*	australis*	Phragmites (Invasive) *
Plantago	lancelota	Narrowleaf plantain
Plantago	major	Common plantain
Populus*	nigra*	Lombardy poplar*
Rhodotypos	scandens	Black jetbead
Robinia*	pseudoacacia*	Black locust*
Rubus	bifrons	Himalayan berry

Rumex	crispus	Curly dock
Rumex*	obtusifolius*	Bitter dock*
Saponaria*	officinalis*	Bouncingbet*
Silene	latifolia	White campion
Solanum	dulcamara	Bittersweet nightshade
Spiraea	xvanhouttei	Vanhoutte spirea
Stellaria	graminea	Grass-like starwort
Syringa*	vulgaris*	Common lilac*
Taraxacum	officinale	Common dandelion
Torilis	japonica	Japanese hedgeparsley
Tragopogon	dubius	Yellow salsify
Trifolium	pratense	Red clover
Typha	angustifolia	Narrowleaf cattail
Veronica*	officinalis*	Common gypsyweed*
Veronica	serpyllifolia	Thymeleaf speedwell
Verbascum*	thapsus*	Common mullein*
Vinca	minor	Common periwinkle
Vicia*	Villosa*	Winter vetch*

**Table3: Landcover Reclassification for Michigan Land Cover/Use Classification System  
Level III Categories**

0	Mixed (Hardwood and Conifer)
1	Hardwood
2	Wetland
3	Conifer
4	Plantation
5	Hay
6	Grass_For
7	Open Water
8	Barren
9	Farmstead

**SOIL KEY**

Soil Series	Abbreviation	Grouped by Soil Order
Lake_bluffs	Lk	1 Erosion and Bluffs
Emmet-Omena_sandy_loams	Es	2 Alfisol
Lake_beaches	Lb	3 Lake
Leelanau-East_Lake_loamy_sands	Ll	4 Spodosol
East_Lake_loamy_sand	Ea	4 Spodosol
Dune_land	Du	5 Entisol
Mancelona-East_Lake_loamy_sands	Ml	4 Spodosol

Eastport_sand	Ed	5 Entisol
Deer_Park_sand	Dk	5 Entisol
Mancelona-Richter_gravelly_sandy_loams	Mr	4 Spodosol
Au_Gres-Kalkaska_sands	Au	4 Spodosol
Water	W	0 Water
Deer_Park-Roscommon_sandss	Dr	5 Entisol
Alpena_gravelly_sandy_loam	As	6 Mollisol
Houghton-Adrian_mucks	Ah	7 Histosol
Wallace-Kalkaska_sands	Wk	4 Spodosol
Wind_eroded_land,_sloping	Wl	1 Erosion and Bluffs
Kalkaska-East_Lake_loamy_sands	Ke	4 Spodosol
Kaleva_sand	Ka	4 Spodosol
Mancelona_sandy_loam	Md	4 Spodosol
Tonkey-Munuscong-Iosco_sandy_loams	Tm	8 Inceptisol
*Additional soil series were present in the full (including regions not surveyed) North and South Manitou Island dataset and were reduced to their soil order, except in the case of Water, and a grouped category for Erosion and Bluffs	##	# Soil Order

Figure 1  
 North Manitou Island Invasive Plant Richness Divided by Trail Length Per Polygon

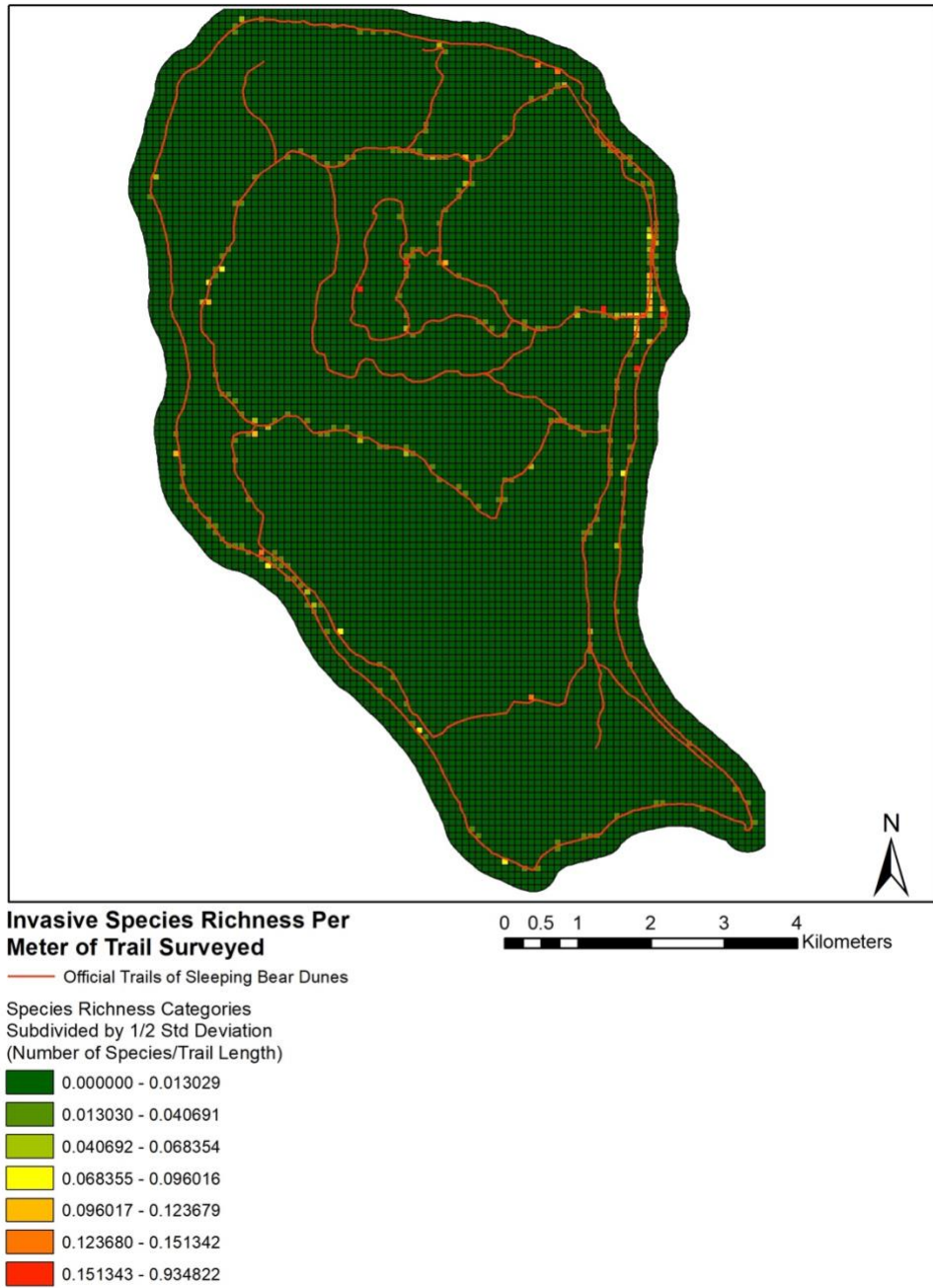


Figure 2  
 South Manitou Island Invasive Plant Richness Divided by Trail Length Per Polygon

