

## Indiana Invasive Species Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
Efroymsen Conservation Center  
620 East Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

10:00 AM

1. Welcome, roll call and introductions: – IISC chairperson Micheal Warner

Council members present:

Michael Warner, (IISC chair) Certified Forester at ArborTerra, representing industry, [mwarner@arboterra.com](mailto:mwarner@arboterra.com)

Heather Reynolds, Professor of Biology at Indiana University representing research, [hlreynol@indiana.edu](mailto:hlreynol@indiana.edu)

Steve Yaninek, Professor of Entomology, Representing the Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University, [yaninek@purdue.edu](mailto:yaninek@purdue.edu)

Rick Haggard, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association, representing industry, [haggard.rick@att.net](mailto:haggard.rick@att.net)

Linda Broadfoot, Director - Indianapolis Parks and Recreation, [lindabroadfoot@indy.gov](mailto:lindabroadfoot@indy.gov)

Eric Fischer, representing Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife, [efischer@dnr.in.gov](mailto:efischer@dnr.in.gov)

Matthew Kraushar, representing Indiana Department of Transportation, [mkraushar@indot.in.gov](mailto:mkraushar@indot.in.gov)

Megan Abraham, representing Department of Natural Resources' Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, [MAbraham@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:MAbraham@dnr.IN.gov)

Kate Sanders, representing Indiana State Department of Agriculture, [kasanders1@isda.in.gov](mailto:kasanders1@isda.in.gov)

Other attendees:

Elizabeth Barnes, Purdue University, [barne175@purdue.edu](mailto:barne175@purdue.edu)

Ellen Jacquart, IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, [ellenjacquart@gmail.com](mailto:ellenjacquart@gmail.com)

Doug Keller, DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife, [dkeller@dnr.in.gov](mailto:dkeller@dnr.in.gov)

Dawn Slack, The Nature Conservancy/(Chair) IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, [dawn.slack@tnc.org](mailto:dawn.slack@tnc.org)

Troy Hinkle, Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM), Steering Committee

Larry Bledsoe, Purdue University, [lbledsoe@purdue.edu](mailto:lbledsoe@purdue.edu)

1. Adopt 18 February 2020 agenda.: Addition to agenda by M. Warner; under old business, add discussion of how cultivars will be evaluated under the Terrestrial Plant Rule.  
Approve 17 December 2019 minutes: Corrections to 17 December 2019 minutes, R. Haggard requested that first paragraph of the IPAC web page concerning invasive plant species be reviewed/revised. S. Yaninek requested that presentations by previous meeting speakers (Sullivan and Muthukrishman) be clarified. H. Reynolds requested clarification of 4th bullet point under IPAC report. Motion to approve minutes by S. Yaninek as amended, second by M. Kraushar. Motion carried.
2. IISC financial report submitted by S. Yaninek: Current balance is \$8,715.85, See attachment 1.
3. Old business:
  - DNR Invasive Species Website Inconsistencies update - Status (Mike Warner):  
D. Keller reported that revisions to address consistencies of content, format, and appearance has begun. The transfer of IDR revisions to the webmaster will be several weeks away. Further

discussion regarding plant list inconsistencies of IDNR site information versus the IISC site information centered around differences in the regulatory and educational (IPAC) lists. A comment was made that different revision dates of IDNR and IISC sites result in ambiguity.

Changes to IPAC lists include the addition of new plant invasive tendency reassessments and updated regulated status. Lists will be arranged by group, common name, binomial name, and habit. The introductory paragraph to the page will clarify that the IPAC/IISC official list also contains non-regulated plants, and that it is differentiated from the TPR regulated plants list. The treatment of cultivars under the TPR will be included in the introductory list.

Item of discussion -legal status: The point was made that a plant with an invasive status ranked as caution, low or medium risk is still considered invasive. The invasive ranking of a plant includes a risk assessment. Cultivar consideration is included in the assessment process. The Indiana process for determining invasive rank was developed by using several state models. Updates to the IPAC/IISC official list will occur as soon as currently available assessment information is proofed. Comment made by E. Fischer that prohibited aquatic plants on the IPAC/IISC list do not link to invasive assessments because only species with “high” ranking were included. Discussion followed on which plants, relative to ranking, should be listed on the IPAC/IISC list. Point was made that IDNR and IPAC use different definitions of what constitutes an invasive species. IDNR only considers plants with high risk ranking as an “invasive species,” and all other candidate species as native/non-native plants of medium/low risk. Comment was made that assumptions and considerations of invasiveness of aquatic plants are different than those of terrestrial plants. Suggestion was made that terrestrial plants assessed with a “caution” ranking be placed in a separate list with descriptive introductory text. Further discussion resolved that the current IPAC/IISC list format should remain intact with enhanced introductory text.

- IISC Biennial Report (Heather Reynolds): M. Warner, current Chair commends past Chair, H. Reynolds on content and timeliness of IISC Biennial Report to the Indiana Natural Resources Commission. **ACTION ITEM:** H. Reynolds presented draft report with discussion and requests comments, corrections, and/or additions by 25 February. Registration forms and current agenda is online at the IISC website. Current sponsorship is \$1,800. Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Board may contribute up to \$5,000 to defray conference cost. Student registration scholarships will be available with these funds. Continuing educational credits will be available.
  - IISC 2020 Biennial Conference Agenda (Dawn Slack): Currently, there are 155 registrants. Planning is proceeding well. The conference will be held 26 March 2020 at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds and Conference Center from 8 am (registration) to 5pm (concluding remarks).
  - Field Guide Status (Dawn Slack): IPAC now has first draft of field guide. Paper quality and guide construction are being considered. The guide contains the previously regulated terrestrial plants and those now referenced in the Indiana Terrestrial Plant Rule. Target price for guide is \$4.00, but paper and construction options will likely drive the price higher. Grants to subsidize payment options are being investigate (possibly NIPSCO). Chair suggests that the Council provide leverage funds/matching gift opportunities for printing costs. Funds from IDNR for production costs may not be feasible. The print minimum is 500 copies. A minimum of approximately 3000 copies need to be ordered for best pricing. Several companies are being considered. R. Haggard suggested Walsworth Publishing Company or investigating graphics suppliers such TKO Graphix (Plainfield, IN) as an economic way to print the guides. Goals include having the field guide ready for printing by 18 April 2020, and to provide a gratis copy to all Indiana

plant nurseries. There will be a field guide Powerpoint version for teaching and a pdf for download. The field guide will be introduced at the biennial conference.

- Board member replacement recommendations for land trust/conservation vacancy. Chair has a verbal agreement from Jim Dahner, Ex Dir., Indiana Land Protection Alliance to serve on the Council if nominated/appointed. Mr. Dehner has a strong interest in invasive species issues. S. Yaninek suggested Ellen Jacquart, IPAC and ex TNC representing biodiversity/conservation be nominated. E. Jacquart provided a verbal commitment to serve if nominated/appointed. M. Kraushar suggested D. Slack as representing biodiversity conservation be nominated. D. Slack provided a verbal commitment to serve if nominated/appointed. Currently only one vacancy exists on the Council. Discussion resulted in a motion by H. Reynolds to nominate E. Jacquart as biodiversity/conservation representative to the Council. Motion second by L. Broadfoot. Motion carried. **ACTION ITEM:** Past Chair will provide the Council member nomination process to current Chair Motion by E. Fischer that an alternative nominee Jim Dehner, identified above, be forwarded, if first nominee is rejected. Motion second by L. Broadfoot. Motion carried.
- Review topic of how plant cultivars will be evaluated under the Terrestrial Plant Rule: Discussion question is whether cultivars will be evaluated separately from species. Council consensus is that TPR is consistently inclusive of listed species, and does not allow separate distinction of cultivars . **ACTION ITEM:** M. Abraham will clarify TPR cultivar inclusion on public announcements.

#### 4. New business:

- Senate Bill 99 summer study committee on invasive species: Background comments by the Chair: Bill was introduced to Indiana Senate by Sen. Susan Glick, Chair of Natural Resources Commission (NRC) in December 2019. A presentation was made to the NRC by M. Warner, D. Slack, Ray Chattin, Jeff Cummings. SB99 has been assigned to a legislative summer study committee. Next task of IISC is to identify and present the Council's recommendations, priorities, and funding needs. A SB99 summer study advisory group consisting of M. Warner, D. Slack, John Ketzberger (TNC), Troy Hinkle, (SICIM), Will Drews (Knox Co. SWCD). Joe Schmees (ASWCD), Jeff Cummings (Farm Bureau, formerly IDA), David Criswell (SWCD), Jim Dehner (ILPA), Ray Chattin (SICIM) have begun discussions.

SB99 IISC discussion comments and questions follow:

1. Include invasive plants, vertebrates/invertebrates, and pathogens in assessing future needs. IDNR has the infrastructure and authority to manage these taxa and might be an option to administrate oversight to the III.
2. There is a need to clarify the future role of IISC, its structure, function, and leadership in invasive organism issues. Question: Will this need to be addressed when IISC charter is renewed? No resolution.
3. Support to emerging CISMAs should have priority. Funding time limits are approaching.
4. There is high priority for an umbrella organization that continues the institutional structure for developing, supporting, and sustaining statewide CISMAs that are temporarily now being provided by SICIM.
5. Could/should the IISC function as the umbrella entity for Indiana Invasives Initiative (III), if it had an executive director? And, should IISC become an agency of state government? No resolution.
6. If IISC assumes oversight of III, then could funding a director position be leveraged to provide service to both?
7. Identifying a physical entity to accommodate the administration of the IISC/III without bias over any aspect of the goals of the CISMAs, should be a priority need; examples are state or

county government, university extension, etc. These types of organizations have the infrastructure to handle office location, transportation issues, accounting/contracting, and grant handling.

8. Indiana Conservation Partnership may be the unbiased umbrella organization that could fit as the entity assuming oversight of III.
  9. Should the mandated tasks of IISC be amended to more effectively address invasive organism issues? No resolution.
  10. Recommendations to the summer survey should emphasize the direction/use of resources that we currently have, or may receive, to address immediate issues (biennial time frame). And there should be a second component to our request/recommendations that would address longer term issues that could be determined during the next few years.
  11. Is a non-profit association of CISMAs a viable option for III oversight? Could an executive director be shared with IISC? Administration of public, state, and federal funding would be possible.
  12. Does IISC membership need to be expanded to represent broader partner base?
  13. Comment made that there will likely be interagency competition for grant funds.
  14. Purdue University College of Agriculture may be the closest model to the perceived III oversight. IISC already has connection there through the CES IS working group. IISC Executive director and III coordinator would be employees of Purdue.
  15. What is the estimated cost to establish an up-to-three county CISMA? One example is \$65,000 annually. Currently there are 22 CISMAs. Establishing a CISMA has different cost (?) than maintenance.
  16. Could IISC seek grants to fund III? Ans. Yes. However, long term, dedicated state funding is essential for maintaining the initiative.
  17. Consensus of Council is that the IISC recognizes that III needs oversight and would be willing to; (1) oversee an IISC executive director and II project director, (2) receive and direct funds and grants, (3) be an advisory body to CISMAs, (4) create clear understanding of III duties and responsibilities and how IISC is linked to the execution of those duties, and (5) evaluate Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service as an infrastructure entity.
  19. Motion by M. Kraushar that the Council create an ad hoc committee to assist in the efforts to provide IISC guidance relative to SB99. Brief discussion on rules relative to state employees influencing legislation ensued. Motion second by R. Haggard. Motion carried.
  20. Ad hoc committee consists of M. Warner, D. Slack, M. Kraushar, and R. Haggard.
  21. Ad hoc committee should meet prior to SB99 committee. A priority for this committee is determining an annual cost estimate to establish III oversight.
  22. **ACTION ITEM:** Send thoughts, concerns, ideas suggestions for SB99 advisory materials to M. Warner as soon as possible.
  23. Senator Glick's ideas/focus should be included to guide the Council recommendation to the summer study committee.
  24. **ACTION ITEM:** S. Yaninek will evaluate potential role of Purdue Cooperative Extension in linking to CISMAs and providing infrastructure for IISC Executive Director and III program coordinator.
  25. The next meeting of the SB99 advisory committee will meet on 17 March 2020.
  26. A goal is to have IISC ad hoc and SB99 committee updates presented to the Biennial Conference attendees on 26 March 2020. Many of the attendees can provide support and influence for the long-term maintenance of III.
- Indiana Division of Forestry 2020 Forest Action plan comments (Mike Warner):
    1. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) invited the IISC Chair (M. Warner) be a Council member. IISC Chair accepted the invitation.

2. The proposed 2014 FSC action plan has meaningful language addressing invasive plant species issues on state forest and private lands that will strengthen the Classified Forest program.
  3. Prioritizing FSC activities was determined by secret ballot. No summary was available on 18 February 2020. However, confidence is high that invasive species related issues/actions will receive high priority from the Indiana Division of Forestry by seeking management and education/outreach funds.
- Emerging Invasive Species Issues
    - Plant Pests (Megan Abraham):
      1. Gypsy moth
        - Public outreach meetings are being planned
        - Four areas in northern Indiana will be treated in 2020 with BtK for larvae and mating disruption for adults in late May/early June
      2. Sudden Oak Death
        - M. Abraham is serving on a national committee working on a new guidelines for retail plant outlets.
        - Significant detail of the new guidelines is the inspection of “broker” nurseries. This is important because a large proportion of nursery stock is imported by regional distributors.
      3. Spotted Lanternfly
        - Confidence is high that this important pest insect will eventually arrive in Indiana.
        - A regional harmonized plan (similar to Japanese beetle) is being considered by eastern and midwestern states.
        - Confidence in state’s ability to slow the spread of this insect is low.
        - Host range is large with greatest impact on grape (and wine) producers.
      4. Japanese beetle
        - California has instituted \$2,500 penalty on air cargo carriers with JB found onboard.
        - Amazon shipments are being closely monitored because of a shipping hub now located in Indiana.
    - Aquatic (Eric Fischer)
      1. Survey and treatment for starry stonewort, primarily in northeastern counties, will continue.
      2. INDR is collaborating with Michigan in determining the distribution of frog bit, floating heart, and others.
      3. Hydrilla survey of the nursery industry will increase in 2020.
    - Animal Diseases (Kelli Werling absent): Written report was presented Chair.
      1. No animal disease reports since last IISC meeting.
      2. Two incidents of feral pig carcass on southern Indiana roads and outside the known Indiana range occurred. One carcass was dumped by out-of-state traveler. DNA results of second carcass not currently available to determine if it is of Indiana origin. These instances point to opportunity to educate public about the laws regulating transporting animals across state lines.
    - Plants (Dawn Slack): No additional information to present.
  - Invasive Plants Advisory Committee (Dawn Slack)
    - General Updates No additional information to present.
    - Invasive Plant Species Assessments & Recommendations for the TPR. No additional information to present.
  - Networking Conversations. No report.
  - Updates from Working Groups & Ad Hoc Committees. No report.
  - Response to Lindsten email re: long term management of invasive plants on mitigation acres.

Indianapolis subdivision with mitigation plan for invasive plants changed ownership and management efforts ceased. Homeowner looking for any help or recommendation to restart mitigation plan. Chair replied that IISC could not provide direct assistance, but may have future discussions with Indiana Department of Environmental Management relative to this topic.

5. Updates or announcements from the Council and public
6. Next meeting date: May, 19, 2020
7. Next steps/action items

#### Action Items:

1. H. Reynolds requests comments, corrections, and/or additions to current (18 February) Biennial Report by 25 February.
2. Past Chair will provide the Council member nomination process to current Chair.
3. M. Abraham will clarify TPR cultivar inclusion on public announcements.
4. Send thoughts, concerns, ideas suggestions for SB99 advisory materials to M. Warner as soon as possible.
5. S. Yaninek will evaluate potential role of Purdue Cooperative Extension in linking to CISMAs and providing infrastructure for IISC Executive Director and III program coordinator.

3:00 PM – Adjourn

#### Appendix I – Networking conversations w/ IISC

##### 2018

- Jan 2018: USDA APHIS PPQ – Nick Johnson
- May 2018: DNR Community and Urban Forestry – Carrie Tauscher
- July 2018: Dr. Mo Zhou – Purdue University
- Nov 2018:
  - Dr. Abigail Sullivan – IU Environmental Resilience Institute
  - Ray Chattin – SICIM

##### 2019

- Feb 2019: DNR Nature Preserves – Tom Swinford
- May 2019:
  - County Weed Boards – Steve Berg, Ken Eck
  - Brenda Howard – Indy Parks
- July 2019: USDA-NRCS – Brianne Lowe
- December 2019:
  - Dr. Abigail Sullivan – IU Environmental Resilience Institute
  - Dr. Ranjan Muthukrishnan – IU Environmental Resilience Institute

#### Prospective speakers:

- Master Gardeners – John Orick, Purdue Horticulture and Landscape Architecture department
  - Sent report in July 2019
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Customs & Border Protection – branch concerned with Ag pest and diseases
- SWCD – statewide leadership

- Land trusts
- US Fish & Wildlife – bat biologist
- Crane Naval Installation – Brady Miller with Department of Defense
- Private forestry and land managers
- Indiana Forestry and Woodland Owners Association – Liz Jackson
- IDEM
- Quail Forever – Biologist

#### Appendix II – IISC Planner for 2019

| DUTIES  | Key Action Items for 2019   | Working Group/Person                               |
|---|---|--|
| [Sec.4. (1)] Recommend priorities for projects, funding, rules and laws concerning invasive species to the appropriate governmental agencies and legislative committees   | Establish summer study task force for CISMA long-term funding issue   | Jeff Cummings                                      |
| [Sec.4. (2)] Recommend a lead state agency to develop an invasive species inventory for each invasive species taxon (plants, insects and plant diseases, aquatics, animal diseases), and develop and maintain a data management system for invasive species in Indiana. | Discussion point: this item is covered by the invasive species lists developed by DNR and IPAC, and by the EddMaps initiative<br><br>Clearinghouse initiative for invasive species annual reporting | Steve Yaninek,<br>Dawn Slack                       |
| [Sec.4. (3)] Communicate with other states, federal agencies, and state and regional organizations to enhance consistency and effectiveness in preventing the spread of, early detection of, response to, and management of invasive species.                           | February: Tom Swinford,<br>DNR Nature Preserves   | Megan Abraham                                      |
|   | May: County Weed Management Board   | Matt Kraushar                                      |
|   | July: USDA-NRCS   | Matt Kraushar                                      |
|   | Dec: Environmental Resilience Institute Researchers   | Heather Reynolds                                   |
| [Sec.4. (4)] Coordinate invasive species education and outreach activities.   | Terrestrial Plant Rule Ed Campaign<br>- Grower/Seller<br>- General Public   | Megan Abraham<br><br>Dawn Slack,<br>Ellen Jacquart |



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|--|--|--|
|  | Indiana Invasive Species Awareness Week -Press Release   | Steve Yaninek & Liz Barnes   |
|  | Indiana Green Expo Invasive Species Panel  | Megan Abraham, Steve Yaninek   |
|  | Great Lakes Parks Training Institute   | Megan Abraham  |
|  | Letters to grower/sellers & to Survivor Tree Program<br>Right-of-Way Managers Invasive Species Training  | Heather Reynolds, Liz Barnes, Dawn Slack<br>Matt Kraushar  |
| [Sec.4. (5)] Convene or support an invasive species meeting at least once per biennium to provide information on best practices and pertinent research findings.                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2019 is off year</li> <li>Planning for 2020</li> </ul>  | Biennial Conference Ad Hoc Committee   |
| [Sec.4. (6)] Assist governmental agencies in reviewing current invasive species policies and procedures, and addressing any deficiencies or inconsistencies in such policies and procedures. | July Meeting: Develop digest of agency Invasive species action plans for HSC website   |  |
| [Sec.4. (7)] Assist state agencies in reviewing the agencies' performance measures for accountability concerning the agencies' invasive species actions.                                     | Agencies do not have invasive species-specific performance metrics...agency metrics are gauged by permits...metrics are dictated by governor's office...interest in this as a way to credit agencies for their work? Concern that metrics and activities are too variable and not under control of agency rep. | Continue conversation – how do we help state agencies get better funding for the invasive species work that they do? |
| [Sec.4. (8)] Receive reports from any governmental agency regarding actions taken on recommendations of the council.   | Ongoing: Terrestrial Plant Rule, website inconsistencies re: invasive species reporting, INDOT Standard Specifications in progress   | Megan Abraham<br>Matt Kraushar   |
| [Sec.4. (9)] Apply for grants.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feb meeting: Ad hoc working group for funding presents</li> </ul>   | Jeff Cummings<br>Steve Yaninek<br>Rick Haggard   |



|   |   |               |
|---|---|---------------|
|   | priorities and recommendations for CISMA funding as guide for legislative summer study commission |               |
| [Sec.4. (10)] Provide grants for education about or management of invasive species. | <del>July Meeting- Receive reports from IISC ad hoc group on funding priorities</del>             | Steve Yaninek |

## Attachment 1.

## IISC 2018 and 2019 Account Activity and Balance.

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Opening balance  | \$5,044.46      |
| Revenue  |                 |
| Feb 18 Allocation from Purdue University (Dean of Agriculture) | \$1,825.00      |
| Mar 18 Conference Sponsorship                                  | \$3,200.00      |
| Mar 18 Conference Registration Online Revenue                  | \$1,919.37      |
| Mar 18 Conference Registration                                 | <u>\$250.00</u> |
|  | \$7,194.37      |
| Expenses   |                 |
| Feb 18 Council letter mail merge and distribution              | -\$1,825.00     |
| Mar 18 Conference catering                                     | -\$1,072.50     |
| Mar 18 Public announcement (conference publicity)              | -\$112.74       |
| Apr 18 Hendricks Co 4-H Conference Center rental               | -\$200.00       |
| Jun 18 Public announcement (Council meeting*)                  | -\$112.74       |
| Jun 18 DNR Community & Urban Forestry School Year Calendar     | <u>\$200.00</u> |
|  | -\$3,522.98     |
| Closing balance  | \$8,715.85      |

\*Council meetings are no longer announced in the Indianapolis Star.

Additional “in-kind” support received from Purdue University includes:

- IT support for managing and maintaining the Council listservs
- Web support for the IISC website (<https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc>) including a major redesign in 2018.
- An allocation in time (support staff) and money (\$1,825) from the Purdue Dean of Agriculture to mail merge and distribute a letter pointing out the threat of selling Callery pear from the Council to all ornamental plant producers and retailers in Indiana during 2019.
- Secretarial support for the Council including taking minutes and other miscellaneous administrative activities.