

Indiana Invasive Species Council

Public Meeting

Purdue University - West Lafayette, IN
SMTH 131 – Entomology Conference Room
April 25, 2012

MINUTES

Call to Order: Steve Yaninek called to order this meeting of the Indiana Invasive Species Council (IISC) at 10:16 am

1. Roll Call and Introductions:

- John Jachetta, Dow AgroSciences
- Philip Gramelspacher, Past President, Indiana Forestry and Woodland Owners Association
- Sandi Norman, Indiana State Board of Animal Health
- Phil Marshall, IN State Entomologist, Department of Natural Resources Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology
- Steve Yaninek, Purdue University, Council President
- Kristopher Krouse, Shirley Heinze Land Trust
- Amy Cornell, Indiana State Department of Agriculture
- Doug Keller, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Eric Fischer, IDNR Fisheries and designated replacement for Doug Keller

Council Members not present:

- Bill Fielding, Indiana Department of Transportation
- Stuart Lowry, Indianapolis Parks and Recreation

Also present were:

- John Baugh, Purdue Ag. Admin
- Lynn Dennis, The Nature Conservancy, IN Chapter
- Ellen Jacquart, The Nature Conservancy, IN Chapter
- Annemarie Nagle, Purdue University

Items of Note:

- Eric Fischer is the new aquatic habitat coordinator at the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and is taking over Doug's seat on the council. Eric will be in DNR's central office.
- Stuart Lowry has moved into the private sector and has not made contact regarding his seat on the council. [Following the meeting, Steve Yaninek talked to Stuart over the phone. Stuart agreed he was no longer in a position to represent his former employer and fulfill his duties as an appointed member of the council.]

2. Adopt agenda and approve minutes from September 23rd, 2011 public meeting

- Additional agenda items:
 - The Federal Invasive Species Act and Farm Bill calls for any additional agenda items
 - New appointments to the council and current membership appointments
- There were no additional edits to the minutes from last meeting sent to A. Nagle, any forthcoming edits should be sent to her.
- President calls for a motion to adopt old minutes, unanimously approved.

3. Old Business:

I. Presentations

- A presentation on BMPs for invasives was intended to be given at Purdue's Annual Road school by Tom Tremain but was not given, the update is proposed for delivery next year at the 2013 meeting.

- II. EPA requirement for state promulgated National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for pesticide applications:
- House Bill HR872 (The Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011) gives preeminence to FIFRA over the Clean Water Act concerning the application of registered pesticides where they may reach water. HR-872 was adopted word for word by Senate, but is stuck in the Agriculture committee and is not being allowed on the floor, though there are at least 66 votes lined up for it should it ever get there.
 - NPDES permits for aquatic and riparian pesticide applications went into effect in all states on October 31st, 2011.
 - Jan. 31st notice of intents were due for pesticide applicators
 - An EPA program is in place for clean water management in those states where EPA has authority for NPDES permits (AK, NH, MA, OK, NM, ID, D.C., US territories, Federal facilities, and Indian Country), each other state must implement their own NPDES permitting plans
 - In Indiana, as long as the applicator has a permit, whether they are certified or not, the permit does not force notice of intent, e.g. there is functionally no notice of intent required
 - Permits are good for five years, the Clean Water Act is sort of a ratchet, it is not intended for weed management or insect management, the diversity of the permitting process for the states will decrease as time goes on
 - In Indiana a notice of intent is required in State Outstanding Watersheds
 - Indiana’s Aquatic Habitat Coordinator will not approve permits that include application by a non-certified applicator
 - Concerns:
 - Citizen or NGO lawsuits—Likely will not occur until bill settles into practice
 - Fear of citizen lawsuits may drive some invasive species control programs under
 - Continuity between states—Illinois has is different requirements than IN, there should be continuity across adjoining states
 - Permitting is also an issue for companies like railroads that span across as many as 20 states.
 - There is a draft of notice of intent on the website
 - Action levels—there is also a draft for this available, will be published in peer review journal and detail mechanisms and measurements
 - Herbicide resistance—NPDES permit might promote herbicide resistance by pushing application rates down so far that it selects for resistance—it is important that sufficient rates are used so that resistant strains are not generated
 - EPA and no one else wants these regulations, they came from the courts
 - Need to keep this issue on the table for next meeting, but Indiana should be in good shape as long as there are not citizen lawsuits.
- III. Letter to Natural Resources Study Committee (NRSC)
- One of the biggest concerns is making sure the committee is fully appointed, working groups are key to keeping council members effective in getting IISC items done
 - A letter seeking suggestions for a council appointee was addressed to NRSC chairman Mr. Eberhart, as requested by the chairman, and sent in October, there was no response.
 - Sandi—BOA may be able to assist with their liaison in motivating the governor to appoint another council member.
 - Stuart Lowry’s seat may be another open appointment
- IV. Amy—MOU procedures
- Purdue Legal Council should provide statutory authority to IISC for handling MOUs
 - The College of Ag has historically entered MOUs but unsure whether they require higher approval
 - The business office director (Cherise Hall) in the College of Ag may be responsible for the MOUs
 - Rationale behind looking at MOUs
 - i. The West Central cooperative weed management group was seeking MOUs with a large number of government/non-government agencies, wanted an association with IISC.
 - ii. As of Sept 2010, the document had already been signed by Hoosier Heartland, Dept. of Ag, Purdue Extension, NRCS. DNR did not sign the document.
 - Does signing by Purdue College of Ag mean we should also support since they are a member of this council?
 - Amy—Suggests consulting the legal counsel at Purdue College of Ag, because they are charged with providing administrative assistance to the council.

- i. AMY WILL FOLLOW UP WITH THE COLLEGE OF AG TO FIGURE OUT WHAT PROCEDURES THEY WILL WANT US TO USE TO GUIDE FUTURE AGREEMENTS
 - ii. We should check with the original requestor and see if it is even still a valid request, as it was likely done for writing a grant proposal or something else that is already past
- V. Amy is taking lead on strategic plan, will call a working group meeting today
 - The strategic plan group met in October, will establish another meeting time today
 - Kallie Bontrager is also part of the strategic plan committee, Kris, Ellen, Steve, Phil M. also on committee
- VI. Invasive species advisory committee—Ellen
 - Best Management Practices (BMPs) Project
 - i. Advisory committee met, ID'd BMPs for forestry, transportation and utilities, and urban forestry produced by WI as best model, but the documents were much too detailed to be well received/applicable.
 - ii. Tom Tremain distilled WI documents down to shorter ones for use in IN
 - Produced a summary “Top Ten” list of BMPs and a Draft Laundry List
 - Attempted to cover BMPs for all audiences at once rather than separate
 - Running these docs by DNR and INDOT to get feedback as to usability
 - *IISC asked to review docs and provide feedback*
 - iii. Advisory committee intends to update docs on May 16th when they meet and incorporate feedback from agencies
 - iv. *The hope is that after the May 16th meeting, the docs will be finalized, will return with them to the next IISC meeting for endorsement and implementation*
 - v. Right now the effort is targeted at agencies, stakeholders targeted in future
 - Report on meeting with DNR landholding divisions
 - i. DNR very diverse agency
 - ii. Not much engagement by Fish and Wildlife Division, other agencies feel that they were doing all they can with available resources
 - iii. Her argument is that these outlines don't change the amount of work they are doing, the reason it will be a pilot program is that there might be problems with implementation and it will give them time to iron those issues out.
 - iv. Div. of Forestry is also working on a list of BMPs, they are using a lot of the same information, but theirs will result in a more detailed, forestry oriented document.
 - v. Amy suggests a simplified study or success story that could be made into a one pager to grab people's attention, people much more likely to adopt the BMPs if they can see it in application, local stories are always most helpful
 - Invasive species list project
 - i. not as much progress on this, not many more spp. assessed than last meeting
 - ii. Seeking summer interns to work on this project, hopefully be able to present more at the next meeting
 - iii. Steve—Is the list controversial, able to be shared or posted?
 - Many plants on the list have been shown to move out of cultivation, but without further analysis (some of them will likely be shown not invasive) they might spark some issues.
 - The draft list can be shared privately among council members, perhaps online
- VII. Aquatic invasive species working group update—DOUG
 - Sept. had preliminary adoption of rule
 - i. Rule prohibits 28 spp. of aquatic plants, 17 of the 28 are federal noxious weeds and shouldn't be in trade anyway. Wanted to have all the fed noxious species on the Indiana list, even if the risk of their escape in IN is very low.
 - ii. Seven species likely have some presence in trade, four of them are known to be very popular. Five species on the list are already widely established in IN.
 - iii. Can't require eradication for any of these using this rule, can only be pulled off the shelves and not sold, eradication can only be done with an order through DNR Entomology and Plant Pathology.
 - Public comment
 - i. Have gone through the fiscal analysis, scheduled for public hearing on May 17th, there are also other methods for public comment

- ii. May 24 will end the public comment process.
- iii. Generally the public who are opposed to the rule are the ones that speak up. *Doug requests that the council voice its support for the rule.* Perhaps write up a letter that the council will sign and submit online
- iv. Will probably add more species to this list eventually after more (100+) species go through the invasiveness assessment tool
- Chinese water spinach and (*Ipomoea aquatica*) and arrowhead (*Sagittaria sagittifolia*) are moved through food trade and the rule gives Phil more authority for regulating it
- Will probably work with Notre Dame and The Nature Conservancy to do something similar for other taxa (fish, etc.)
- Leadership of working group will pass from Doug Keller to Eric Fischer; Doug is now the Aquatic Habitat Coordinator, and Eric will report to Doug.
- Phil and Ellen hoping to follow the same pathway for terrestrial plants and others, is a great pathway to follow.
- Motion to vote on IISC letter of support for rule, motioned seconded, unanimously approved.
 - i. The letter will be reviewed by the council before approval
 - ii. Phil, Doug, Eric will abstain from signing it
 - iii. *Letter must be drafted and accepted electronically in 3 weeks*
 - iv. Possible to do the voting via email, letter will be brief and include a link to the rule for review by committee members.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:50.

VIII. Other old business:

- Sandi—Checking with PIO regarding broader distribution of info to stakeholders
 - i. PIOs meet 1st or 2nd Tuesday of the month; they are more than happy to help with info distribution.
 - ii. Also ask about getting new council appointment made.
- Phil G. gave Steve a list of industry candidates for appointment consideration
- Last meeting, council agreed to have two meetings each year, one in spring and one in fall (March and Sept., ideally)
- Conference organizing committee update—Phil M.
 - i. There was no conference call held for the conference organization.
 - ii. Explored the possibility of tying into other meetings, tacking on an invasive spp. Symposium to fill conference requirement
 - iii. Ellen can suggest to the cooperative weed management areas to partner with IISC. If we only have a year to work with it would have to be a smaller scale meeting, focused on invasive plants.
 - iv. There is no money available to pay for bringing speakers, lodging, etc.
 - v. Indiana Land protection meetings—another venue suggested by Kris as a first step to promote the council to the core group of people who care about invasives.
 - vi. Crop Advisors Group suggested as another venue, continuing education credits should be offered to attract more interest
 - vii. This will probably happen at minimum a year out from now. Conferences can take up to 2 years to plan

4. NEW BUSINESS:

I. Appointments

- Sandi—Checking with PIO regarding broader distribution of info to stakeholders, PIOs meet 1st or 2nd Tuesday of the month, they are more than happy to help with info distribution.
- Legislation regarding appointments is 15-16-10-5, code states that governor shall specify the term of each member. There are 2 3-year terms, 2 2-year terms, 2 1-year terms, but members serve until they are replaced.
- Section 2 of legislation creates the staggered terms for the appointments, expires June 2012. Once this section expires, the council enters the 3 year cycle of terms.
- The staggered appointment strategy doesn't make sense now because of the late start date. All of the letters that went out were the same, terminating in 2012

- Very difficult getting the governors to appoint. The council should put together a list of recommendations and lists of names that they want on the council and submit to governor.
 - Summary
 - i. There are five appointed positions, one was never filled, it was an industry representative
 - ii. One is vacant, is a parks/land trust/conservation group, this was Stuart Lowry's position.
 - iii. Three council members here have expiring appointments in June. Some action needs to be taken on all five positions.
 - iv. Current members with expiring appointments are willing to serve beyond current appointments, any that are not will notify Steve via email within a couple days.
 - v. *Reappointments and alternatives will be specified in a letter to the governor, must be in a separate list from the new appointment suggestions. There shouldn't be more than 2 names in alternative suggestions.*
 - vi. The council should seek 3 year appointments for all members
 - vii. Ellen is suggested as a candidate to fill Stuart's position.
 - Action Items
 - i. Put in three requests for renewals of term appointments for three years
 - ii. Put in two requests for vacancies that need appointments for three years (supply a list of two names for each vacancy, members submit suggestions via email to Steve).
 - **Timeline—have a short list of nominee suggestions and a draft letter ready to go by mid-May, list of names should be compiled by the end of next week.**
- II. Election of new chairperson
- Steve opens floor to nominations
 - Kris nominates John J., nomination seconded, unanimously approved, John accepts position
 - John requests that Ellen and Kris help out with the conference organization, wants to attend cooperative weed management areas with Ellen to learn more
 - John will review and get minutes approved as first order of business
- III. Council presentations in 2012
- Main role of IISC is to grant credibility to outreach efforts and other invasive spp. efforts throughout the state, Steve says that the council should embrace people who are working in outreach efforts already to execute its objectives
 - *Any presentations made in 2012 should be sent to Annemarie for inclusion in minutes.*

Presenter	Location	Subject

- IV. Farm Bill Update—Phil M.
- Two new pieces of legislation are going to congress for funding to go out to states for invasive species management.
 - Want to give states money for lands management and to the departments of transportation (amt based on # of highways). Overall intent is that 80-90% of funds should go onto the ground for direct management activities, not to be stripped off by the receiving agency.
 - If this legislation goes through Phil suggests it is one IISC should support. The states would apply for a block grant to access this money. At this point the only thing for us to do is wait until the political process plays out. Phil and Amy will keep council informed.
- V. Pulling together initiative—Ellen
- Is a grant program started thru National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, is now focused on groups of generally invasive plant species and their control.
 - NFWF is primary granting agency for the cooperative weed management agencies east of the Mississippi.
 - Pre-proposals are due May 15th. 1 to 1 match is required. Match can be time, infrastructure, income. Can request \$15,000-75,000.
 - Plant advisory committee doesn't have authority on its own to apply for grant, but will generate a draft proposal
 - Ellen will bring draft pre-proposal back to the council for approval and input on matching
 - Full proposal invitations are sent out by May 29th, then there are two months to submit a full proposal.

- VI. Live plant imports pathway of invasive forest pest introductions—Phil M.
- The article has created a stir and author is under a gag order and has been asked to retract the report.
 - The issue with this particular article is that the other literature has not specifically said that importation has happened on live plant imports.
 - At best borders and customs can inspect 2% of what comes through the ports.
 - Kaphra beetle epidemic in Middle East, intercepted all the time at the ports.
- VII. Working Group Updates—Group membership listings need to be checked by council
- Invasive Plants Advisory Committee (Kris, Ellen, others?) –See above for update
 - Aquatic Invasive Plants Advisory Committee (Doug, Eric, others?)—See above for update
 - Conference Working Group (Ellen, Rick, Kris, Eric, John)
 - Communications and Website (Ellen, Phil. M., Annemarie)
 - i. Steve would like this group to create platform for sharing docs within council.
 - ii. Searchable tags should be present on site
 - iii. Annemarie can work with Purdue’s new web designer to spearhead website effort
 - iv. Update on invasive species outreach programs
 - Annemarie gave overview of NABB program, demonstrated updated NABB website and publications
 - Phil M. announced new EAB quarantine map for IN, counties south of Sullivan and Greene counties are border for new quarantine. Phil is recommending a set of BMPs for uninfested, quarantined counties.
 - Steve—Outreach messages and response are typically taxa specific, it is a challenge for the council to craft a message to reach audiences and engage them on a general level.
 - Phil M.—The Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Project team is organizing citizen training sessions to encourage scouting for invasive forest pests. Sessions will take place in “the Region”, Evansville, and Lawrenceburg/Aurora.
 - Hemlock wooly adelgid has been confirmed in IN, the infestation likely originated in MI. There is only one detected infested plant, the tree will be destroyed. The infestation originated through movement of infested plant material, not nursery trade. An external quarantine is in the works for HWA.
 - Data Collection and Management group (Phil M., Larry Bledsoe, Ellen J.)
 - i. Nothing really to report.
 - ii. Steve—the intention was to create an inventory or list of resources for where information on various invasive taxa is located. Edmaps is so far the most effective repository of invasive spp. data, especially for plants.
 - iii. Steve—Larry can probably be asked to push for this because he already manages a part of the database that is important to the state. [Post-meeting Steve discuss this opportunity with Larry and he agreed to assume chair responsibility.]
 - iv. Ellen—probably need to send out a questionnaire to figure out where invasive species data is housed.
- VIII. Floor opened to other issues, action items:
- John—Next meeting is in September, **requests agendas for proposed independent meetings of working groups.**
 - Sandi—MI is doing an enforcement action for feral pigs, BSE was found in dairy cow, did not make it into the food supply.
 - Pulling together initiative grant wrap-up—Kris
 - i. For a successful proposal will need:
 - a. Strategic plan
 - b. IISC endorsement
 - ii. Steve will act as Purdue liaison for the grant application, Ellen will email pre-proposal contents to Steve before his departure on May 14th.
 - Amy—Will continue working with strategic plan group, will follow up with Cherese Hall and connect with legal council at Purdue
 - Eric—Picks up accountability for aquatic invasive advisory committee

- Doug—There is a letter coming from the Division of Fish and Wildlife naming Eric as the official IISC member, will draft letter for endorsement of aquatic invasive species Rule for approval by council (**need names of appointees for new appointments/refilled appointments from industry and local government by end of next week**)
- Phil—will report on progress of legislation, will look back with Larry on database issue and invasive spp. repository.
- Annemarie—Spearheading the website committee, taking suggestions on what should be in the website
- Steve—Will contact Stewart Lowry, volunteered Annemarie and Larry on data management and website, seconds John's comments about the working groups being important to achieving the mission of the council, continues to serve in his role as the point person for Purdue (organizing meetings, minutes, sending out info, etc.)

Meeting adjourned 3:20pm.