

IISC Virtual Meeting - Tuesday, November 10, 2020

10:00 am Welcome and roll call

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

Council members present:

Michael Warner, (IISC chair) Certified Forester at ArborTerra, representing industry, mwarner@arboterra.com
Megan Abraham, representing Department of Natural Resources' Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, MAbraham@dnr.IN.gov
Linda Broadfoot, Director - Indianapolis Parks and Recreation, lindabroadfoot@indy.gov
Eric Fischer, representing Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife, efischer@dnr.in.gov
Rick Haggard, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association, representing industry, haggard.rick@att.net
Matthew Kraushar, representing Indiana Department of Transportation, mkraushar@indot.in.gov
Heather Reynolds, Associate Professor of Biology at Indiana University representing research, hlreynol@indiana.edu
Kate Sanders, representing Indiana State Department of Agriculture, kasanders1@isda.in.gov
Kelli Werling, Representing Indiana State Board of Animal Health, kwerling@boah.in.gov
Steve Yaninek, Professor of Entomology, Representing the Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University, yaninek@purdue.edu

Other attendees:

Phil Marshal, DNR, PMarshall@dnr.IN.gov
David Bausman, Indiana State Department of Agriculture dbauman@isda.in.gov
Elizabeth Barnes, Purdue University, barne175@purdue.edu
Ellen Jacquart, IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, ellenjacquart@gmail.com
Doug Keller, DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife, Invasive Species Supervisor, dkeller@dnr.in.gov
Dawn Slack, The Nature Conservancy/(Chair) IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, dawn.slack@tnc.org
Greg Hitzroth, Illinois-Indiana Seagrant, hitzroth@illinois.edu
Larry Bledsoe, State Coordinator, Indiana Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey, Dept. of Entomology, Purdue University lbledsoe@purdue.edu

2. Adoption of agenda (M. Warner): S. Yaninek requested the addition of a report on spotted lanternfly by M. Abraham and/or E. Barnes. Modified agenda adopted by Council without vote.
3. Review and approval of minutes from last IISC meeting (M. Warner): Recording of IISC meeting on 21 July 2020 was lost. **M. Warner will assemble meeting minutes from his notes and will present the recovered minutes at the next IISC meeting. Council should consider new candidates, as some of the current member terms are nearing expiration.**
4. IISC member vacancy (M. Warner). A recommendation to appoint Ellen Jacquart to the Council is awaiting approval by the General Counsel to the Governor of Indiana. A decision is expected before 31 December 2020.
5. Biennial IISC/CISMA conference “Invasive Species and Watersheds: Soil and Water Impacts” summary report (D. Slack):
 - The 20 August 2020 IISC Biennial conference format consisted of pre-recorded and live presentations (7 speakers).
 - 317 registrations: 121 participated on Zoom presentations.
 - Initial informal feedback from participants was positive.
 - CEUs offered for Office of State Chemist, Society of American Foresters, International Society of Arboriculture.
 - 9 Weed Wranglers awards presented. Weed Wrangler cash award of \$500 to the Morgan Co. CISMA.

- Biennial IISC/CISMA Conference net revenue of \$11,196.35 will likely be used by SICIM to fund proposed 2021 Indiana Invasive Initiative/CISMA Conference and regional CISMA projects (\$3,000+).
- (H. Reynolds) Comment; this allows IISC to fulfill a Council task to award grants to assist invasive species initiatives.
- A potential field day event for 2021 is being considered.
- M. Warner, E. Jacquot, and M. Kraushar commended D. Slack, E. Barnes, and the conference committee for exceptional effort and a job well done.
- M. Kraushar suggested that the cost of online CEU credit should be in the \$10/credit hour range. Conference costs could be 2-tiered. One price for access to content only, and a second fee for those wishing CEU credit.
- The costs of online CEU credit will be considered in the future.
- Plans for future conferences and field days have begun.

6. Invasive Species TPR Field Guide status (D. Slack)

- Funding for printing/binding 550 copies was obtained.
- Copies were disseminated proportionally to funding entities. Funding entities to disseminate copies to selected groups.
- TPR Field Guide is 87 pages in weather-resistant paper. An order for an additional 1,000 copies @ \$10 per copy has been placed. Approximately 50 percent of order has been pre-sold.
- S. Yaninek suggested that the Council conference advisory committee should be consulted for recommendations for disseminating IISC copies.
- D. Slack suggested that IDNR biologists, inspectors, INDOT, ISDA, and extension educators, etc. would benefit from having copies.
- **D. Slack will contact those participants who will assist in disseminating copies of the TPR Field Guide. M. Abraham will coordinate distribution to entities located at the State Office Building in Indianapolis. Katie Sanders will assist distribution to ISDA.**
- M. Warner noted that there was a consensus of the Council to approve D. Slack's proportional distribution plan for the TPR Field Guides and no vote was taken.

7. Discussion of Indiana Invasive Initiative (III) status and future funding needs (M. Warner):

- The development of a ten year III strategic plan is in progress, but slow.
- The III plan would provide educational and promotional assistance to invasive species issues.
- Estimated future operating costs for the III would be about \$500K/yr.
- NCRS is already engaged in III by providing infrastructure and assistance to land owners in a cost-share mode (\$2.6M in 2019).
- NCRS is a major component in implementation of invasive species management.
- Expanding commercial businesses and creating new business supporting IS management should be a component of III strategic plan.
- An Indiana government summer study was created in 2020 to consider carbon mitigation and IS management funding issues.
- D. Slack comments
 - III operating costs are about \$475K/yr. This amount includes funding for 56 regional specialists and a part-time coordinator.
 - Tasks to be completed by 2022 include and accomplishments to date.
 1. Develop 60 CISMAs (37 currently operating in 70 counties)
 2. Conduct 400 landowner assessments of parcels 10 acres or less. (350+ assessments completed)
 3. Develop 80 sustainable CISMA units (40 SWCDs are engaged in CISMA development.)
 4. Conduct 600 technical assistance interactions
 5. Conduct 60 outreach events (515+ events conducted that have reached 40K+ attendees. These events include 41 Weed Wrangles, CISMA conference Aug 2020, quarterly "Learn and Network" CISMA session-Nov 2020, collaborating on grants and maintaining a Face Book presence.
 6. Conduct 8 Indiana Conservation Partner training events annually (15 events held to date)
 7. Create an umbrella organization for III plan oversight. (A full time executive director is needed).

- Question from D. Bausman: Are state legislators being informed of III activities? Ans. D. Slack: The Senate Bill 99 committee is the liaison for the CISMA/III plan. Progress and interaction have been minimal and slow.
- H. Reynolds: The III plan seems to be concerned with dealing with invasive species that have already appeared in the landscape. Question: Is there a portion of the plan that deals with preventive measures that could reduce the number of new problem species? Ans. D. Slack: Prevention/reduction of the use of commercial invasive plants and guidance on commercial/private alternative landscaping (and early detection/response) are all parts of the III plan, but was not adequately presented in the summary above.
- **S. Yaninek stated that III should identify commercial partners approaching Indiana Legislature to demonstrate funding leverage. H. Reynolds suggested that such a list of industry collaborators would be useful in satisfying portions of the IISC strategic plan.**
- M. Warner. Legislative Funding Study Committee had discussion regarding various current mechanisms for voluntary contributions by commercial partners to support conservation and reforestation and other natural resource programs. This may be an opportunity for III to identify similar commercial partners and programs for IS management.
- D. Bausman: Reduced state revenue in 2020 will make fulfilling funding requests unlikely.
- M. Warner: Question: What is possible/practical for III funding in the next Legislative session? Ans. D. Bausman: The near-term outlook is not promising. State revenue reduction due to Covid19 revenue issues will continue into 2021-2022. Committee hearings will be by teleconference and other media platforms which will make personal contact/meetings with legislators nearly impossible. State departments have been requested to reduce budgets by 15 percent. One suggestion is to continue to highlight the public's new appreciation for the state's natural resources, and the need for continual protection from invasive organisms. IISC/III should continue to demonstrate the economic impact of invasive organisms. One suggestion is to invite a local legislator to informally participate in IS field day events.
- H. Reynolds: Should media be invited to these IS events? Ans. D. Bausman: Media should not be invited to events where candid, informal conversations with legislators are desired. Media should be invited where event publicity is desired.
- R. Haggard: Regarding III funding issue; he has been in contact with Indiana Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects to strengthen connections with that group.
- Comment by M. Abraham: The nursery industry is currently very healthy as consumers who were/are displaced by Covid19 issues turned their energies and money on gardening and landscaping projects. Use of state parks and natural areas at a high point. The public is very sensitive to natural resource issues now and are teachable on issues like invasive species management.
- Comment by D. Slack; Requests for landowner surveys and technical assistance are at an all-time high point.
- Question by H. Reynolds: Is there a way to partner with universities in servicing public request for land-use assistance? No discussion.

8. Economic assessment of the new plants ranked high on the updated official plant list. M. Abraham:

- The TPR became enforceable in April 2020. Survey emphasis was on highly invasive plants that were not on the current rule, but should be considered for inclusion on the next modification of the rule.
- A table of the numbers of potentially invasive plants in commerce in Indiana was presented. The next task is to determine the number and economic impact of species to include in the next modification of the TPR. Discussion was requested from the Council whether to put all the highest ranked species on the list for inclusion, or to pick a few with the highest economic impact, and therefore, most likely to be accepted by the legislative process.
- E. Jacquart: The estimated value of each species would be helpful in the decision process. Also, EJ wanted to point out that the invasive European cranberry bush, *Viburnum opulus cv opulus* is widely mislabeled as American cranberry bush, *Viburnum opulus cv americanum*. The nursery inspectors should be sensitive to this possibility during the economic survey. M. Abraham indicated that this problem can be addressed under labelling laws. These species are not addressed in the TPR Field Guide, but training programs do include them.
- **M. Warner requests that M. Abraham send Council members the economic listing of potential plants to be added to the TPR modification as soon as possible. A conference call will be planned to provide guidance.**

- M. Kraushar: Should all *Torilus* spp (hedge parsley) in Indiana be considered invasive? Ans. Yes.
 - Callery pear in trade is declining which shows that education is working, however, there are still a few nurseries that refuse to begin the process of eliminating it.
 - Spotted lanternfly report: First record in US was in Pennsylvania during 2000. It recently appeared in several states along the eastern seaboard Maine to Virginia. Primary hosts are Tree-of-Heaven, grape, and black walnut. SLF are poor fliers and good hitch-hikers on planes, trains, and automobiles. This pest is now in eastern Ohio. SLF will be in Indiana soon (?). The management strategy will be the slow-the-spread technique similar to what is used to manage gypsy moth. A survey program that emphasizes high risk pathways has been in place for several years. Purdue is developing an outreach program. **E. Barnes reported she is assembling a team to identify and/or create spotted lanternfly educational materials. Anyone interested in joining the team should contact her.**
 - Cicada killers and European hornets are being mis-identified as murder hornets.
 - Mystery seeds from China are still being reported. This is a “brushing” scam where an unordered item is sent to improve product ratings on Amazon. Nationally, 15,000+ packages of seeds have been intercepted.
 - Asian long horned beetle: Interception occurred in NW Indiana. Trapping and survey are underway for the next three years. No additional beetles have been found.
 - Emerald ash borer: EAB will be deregulated soon. Survey and control funds will be reassigned to biological control of the beetle. Indiana EAB firewood movement restrictions are being removed. Federal EAB quarantines will be removed soon.
9. Invasive Plant Advisory Committee updates, Terrestrial Plant Rule Guide, Weed Wrangles (D. Slack): Most of this content appears above.
- The committee continues to monitor EDDMapS Indiana.
 - *Miscanthus* and *Viburnum opulus* cv *opulus* are appearing more frequently.
 - Yellow grooved bamboo, *Phyllostachys aureosulcata*, needs to be assessed for inclusion on the official Indiana Invasive Plant List.
10. Report from the Indian Forest Stewardship Advisory Council (M. Warner):
- IISC holds a voting position on the IFSAC.
 - The IFSAC action plan strongly supports the state-wide CISMA presence.
11. Agency reports and updates (M. Warner)
- E. Fischer, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, IDNR Div of Fish and Wildlife:
 1. No report of new invasive species.
 2. The Indiana Aquatic Species Management Plan was finalized and submitted to the National Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force for review and filing in December 2020. Review comments from the Council were appreciated. The new document is superior to the one it replaces.
 3. A new federal grant for aquatic plant control was approved and contract work will be continuing.
 - Doug Keller, Aquatic Habitat Program Supervisor, IDNR Div of Fish and Wildlife:
 1. Terrestrial Invasive Species Management Plan has been approved.
 2. A coordinator for the Terrestrial Invasive Species Management Plan will be hired, but timing of the hire is unknown due to Covid19 issues.
 - K. Sanders, Indiana State Department of Agriculture:
 1. Reported that the public has an increased interest in invasive species issues, programs, and environmentally sound landscaping plans.
 - M. Kraushar, Indiana Dept of Transportation, Vegetation Management:
 1. Year to date treatment for noxious broadleaf weeds on Indiana roadsides is 80,000+ acres and 5,000± acres of Johnson grass and brush control.
 - S. Yaninek and E. Barnes, Dept of Entomology:
 1. Purdue Extension Invasive Species Working Group has been working with state agencies and various conservation partners to develop training programs to be available in 2021.
 2. The Emerald Ash Borer University website live/recorded series covers many topics and provides CEU credit. Next program will be on Dicamba herbicide and its impact on non-target trees. Other planned

programs will be impact of climate change on invasive species and another program on invasive jumping worms. Comment by M. Abraham was that a recent program on spotted lanternfly was excellent.

- D. Slack comment: Expressed thanks to Purdue Extension Service for its assistance in program logistics and promotion.
- Linda Broadfoot, Indy Parks and Recreation:
 1. Announced the renovation of an industrial waste site on Indy's southeast side and its conversion to/opening of Sandorf City Park.
 2. Commended Brenda Howard, Senior Ecologist, Office of Land Stewardship, Indy Dept of Public Works, and her team for their dedication to Indy Parks.
 3. Announced that a golf course is being transitioned to a downtown park.
- Kelli Werling, Indiana State Board of Animal Health:
 1. No new foreign animal diseases detected in 2020 once last IISC meeting.
 2. Six new investigations of foreign diseases include two for equine vesicular stomatitis (negative) and one for pig foot and mouth disease (negative) and three for rabbit hemorrhagic disease (negative).
 3. Update of wild pig task force: USDA funding for wild pig elimination is in the 4th year of 5 years, 23 wild pigs were removed. The estimated Indiana wild hog population is less than 50 located in Lawrence, Jackson, and Orange Counties. There are 40,315+ acres in the elimination project. Disease prevalence is being evaluated for any pig obtained. DNA testing of water for the presence pig activity is a new tool in detection.
 4. African swine fever has not been detected in Indiana. ASF was detected in a wild pig carcass in Germany in September 2020.
 5. Securing Indiana Pork Supply Program provides opportunities for producers to voluntarily prepare and protect their pork operation. With assistance of Purdue Cooperative Extension meetings are planned in all 92 counties. Six meetings are planned in the remaining months of 2020. IN BOAH will present a plan and process that producers can follow in the event of a foreign disease outbreak.
 6. Scattered reports of epizootic hemorrhagic disease in white-tail deer were reported during the fall (Franklin and Pulaski Counties), but overall, disease incidence has been very low.
 7. Eastern equine encephalitis (3 cases) was detected in horses in LaGrange and Kosciusko Counties. One human case was detected in LaPorte County. Indiana Department of Health conducted aerial applications of pesticides for mosquitoes in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaGrange, LaPorte, Marshall, and Noble Counties. US had nine confirmed human cases of EEE as of mid-October.
 8. Question by S. Yaninek: Has there been any interaction between Covid19 virus and Indiana farm animals? Ans. Mink farming is not known in the state. Testing of pet animals has been a concern of the public. The INBOA recommendation is that pet animals not be routinely tested for Covid19. INBOA provided guidance to livestock producers in managing excess animals due to a lower market demand, and for Covid19 issues in the workforce of farm/production/rendering facilities.
 9. Question by D. Slack: Is IDNR going to continue survey/monitoring for chronic wasting disease in deer? Ans. Discussions are occurring (early November 2020) within IDNR to determine if surveys will occur in 2020. D. Keller reported the primary area of surveillance will be the counties bordering state lines in NE and NW Indiana. Deer heads can be given to IDNR anywhere in the state if CWD is suspected. No systematic state-wide testing will occur.
- **H. Reynolds, Indiana University: She is considering developing an email list of Indiana universities to initiate dialogue about invasive species issues resulting is research reports on selected species.** Asks the Council for an opinion. M. Warner indicated that the information would be useful.
- R. Haggard, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association, indicated that low supplies of nursery stock will be common in late 2020 through 2021. This has resulted in the importation of out-of-state, mis-labelled stock. For example, *Euonymus fortunei* variants are being sold as *E. japonicus* in Big R stores. However, this unconfirmed. M. Abraham indicated that IDNR issued 140 stop-sale citations since April 2020. Plants identified by the citations were destroyed. Nursery inspectors are being trained to recognize when species are mis-identified. Question by M. Warner: What are Green Expo plans 2021? Ans. A virtual Expo will be held on January 19-21, 2021. Invasive species topics will be included in the program. **R. Haggard will send tentative Green Expo schedule to Council members.**
- P. Marshall INDNR.

1. There has been a slight increase in gypsy moth counts. The Purdue site had no moths in traps. The Richmond eradication site is being delimited. No treatment is currently planned.
2. The non-invasive Shothole leafminer numbers and damage increased in 2020.
3. Frost injury (9 May 2020) to forests was significant in southcentral counties.
4. No Thousand Cankers Disease or walnut twig beetle was detected as of 10 November 2020.
5. Chestnut oak loss is increasing. Dry conditions are stressing trees.

12. Other new business

- Invasive Species Awareness Week, 22-28 February 2021.
- M. Warner as IISC chair recognized and commended D. Slack for her efforts and energy dedicated to multiple IISC programs and working groups.

13. Action items and next meeting scheduled

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2. Council to consider new candidates, as some of the current member terms are nearing expiration.
3. D. Slack will contact those participants who will assist in disseminating copies of the TPR Field Guide. M. Abraham will coordinate distribution to entities located at the State Office Building in Indianapolis. Katie Sanders will assist distribution to ISDA.
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6. S. Yaninek stated that III should identify commercial partners approaching Indiana Legislature to demonstrate funding leverage. (H. Reynolds suggested that such a list of industry collaborators would be useful in satisfying portions of the IISC strategic plan.)
7. H. Reynolds and D. Slack will develop an email list of Indiana universities to initiate dialogue about invasive species issues resulting in research reports on selected species.
8. R. Haggard will send tentative Green Expo schedule to Council members.
- 9 M. Warner will continue strategic planning for III.

14. Next meetings in 2021- all Tuesdays: 16 February, 18 May, 20 July, and 9 November.

Motion to Adjourn, second by H. Reynolds. Meeting Adjourned, 12:42pm