

Indiana Invasive Species Council Public Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Wednesday, 1 February 2017, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Eastern)

Government Building South

402 West Washington, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Conference Center Room 2

1. Welcome, roll call and introductions: – IISC chairman Kris Krouse 10:25 am
- Chair announced Council attendance does not represent a quorum.

Council members present:

- Kristopher Krouse, Executive Director, Shirley Heinze Land Trust kkrouse@heinzetrust.org
- Sandra Norman, representing Indiana State Board of Animal Health snorman@boah.in.gov
- Megan Abraham, State Plant Regulatory Official, State Entomologist, and Division Director, IDNR Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Department of Natural Resources MAbraham@dnr.IN.gov
- Mike Warner, Certified Forester, ArborTerra mwarner@arboterra.com
- Eric Fischer, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, IDNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife efischer@dnr.in.gov

Council members not present:

- Heather Reynolds, Associate Professor, Indiana University hreynol@indiana.edu
- Bill Fielding, representing Indiana Department of Transportation wfielding@indot.in.gov
- Philip Gramelspacher, representing Indiana Forestry and Woodland Owners Association pgramelspacher@insightbb.com
- Steve Yaninek, Dept. of Entomology, Purdue University, representing the Dean, College of Agriculture, Purdue University yaninek@purdue.edu
- David Bausman, Indiana State Department of Agriculture dbausman@isda.in.gov
- Rick Haggard, Executive Director, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association haggard.rick@att.net

Other attendees:

- Dawn Slack, Steward of Southern Lands, The Nature Conservancy dawn.slack@tnc.org
- Phil Marshall, Forest Health Specialist, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology pmarshall@dnr.in.gov
- Lynn Dennis, Director of Government Relations, Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy ldennis@tnc.org
- Ken Cote, Nursery Inspector, Dept of Natural Resources, Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology KCote@dnr.in.gov
- Cliff Sadof, Professor, Dept. of Entomology, Purdue University csadof@purdue.edu
- Larry Bledsoe, State Coordinator, Indiana Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey, Dept. of Entomology, Purdue University lbledsoe@purdue.edu

2. Adopt agenda & approve November 10, 2016 minutes

-Agenda and previous minutes approved with minor corrections by consensus (no quorum).

3. Old business: Council appointments update

- Chair reported that Council memberships by John Williams (Indy Parks) and Dave Bausman (IN Dept Ag) have been vacated.

Action Item: S. Norman will contact IN Dept of Ag for Bausman replacement, and K. Krouse will contact Governor's office for Williams replacement.

4. New business:

• IISC Legislative update

- Funding – Lynn Dennis. Conferred with John Baugh and Tony Hahn (Purdue University Dir, State Relations and Policy Analysis: Office of Governmental Relations) and both are willing to consider the IISC Executive Director position for addition to the 2018-2019 Purdue University Agricultural Research and Extension – Crossroads appropriations request. The request requires State Senate confirmation before it can be funded.

- Discussion resulted in suggestion that the Council communicate with state legislators at any opportunity to increase awareness of the need for the Exc. Dir. position. Council could use increased grant funding opportunities for invasive species issues generated by new position as an incentive.

- Discussion resulted in suggestion that Council increase requested amount from \$120K to \$150K.

- L. Dennis reported that the position would be housed in the College of Agriculture at Purdue University.

- Motion by M. Warner that the Council the Exec Dir funding request be \$150K per year. Motion tabled.

Action item: resolution of motion at next meeting is needed.

- L. Dennis requests brief summary of current invasive species issues and needs important to Indiana.

Action item: P. Marshall will coordinate the invasive species issues and needs summary document. M. Warner suggested adding a list of possible funding grants to support IISC goals.

- Council Activity Report – Kris Krouse.

(1) Edited report has been sent of Ag study committee.

(2) Discussion resulted in a suggestion to enhance the report section, “Ongoing and Emerging Species” with additional information and photos to serve as stand-alone document to enhance IISC value to legislators. Economic impacts of terrestrial and aquatic organisms are suggested as valuable addition. IDNR economic information on Gypsy moth, kudzu, and timber management exists and could be included. Selecting single representative plant, mammal, arthropod, fish, and pathogen to summarize economic impact is preferred.

(3) Separate issue; L. Dennis wanted to make the Council aware of legislation introduced by representative, Ron Bacon (Evansville, District 75) regarding roadside vegetation management. The bill concerns INDOT mowing of roadsides a minimum number of times per year without regard to potential spreading of invasive species propagules.

- Invasive Plants Advisory Committee

- IPAC Update – Dawn Slack. A conference call is scheduled 28 Feb 2017. Intent of call is to reorganize the committee, refine priorities and plan projects. Updating the official IISC plant list will be high on the priority list. Plant list update timeline TBD.

- Terrestrial Invasive Plant Rule (TIPR) update – Megan Abraham IDNR. An economic analysis for the TIPR is still in process and will need to be approved by DNR and Office of Management and Budget. A hurdle to pass is the State moratorium regarding new regulations. There is no estimate of completion and submission.

- Kudzu Outreach – Ken Cote, Nursery Inspector, IDNR. Presentation highlighting possible role of IISC in connecting small, special interest groups with large state-run projects.

Discussion:

(1) The IDNR kudzu management program is a candidate for collaboration.

County Weed Management Area (CWMA) groups are suggested as possible collaborating agencies.

(2) D. Stack has a CWMA list. Problems exist. Many counties need to organize CWMA's and the learning curve is steep. Resources are lacking in many counties. D. Stack is connecting with, and encouraging CWMA's to send representatives to the IISC May meeting.

(3) Soil and Water Conservation districts (and the SWCD Indiana State Association, Jennifer Boyle Warner Exec Dir) might be willing to collaborate or have interested contacts.

(4) Jennings County SWCD has been helpful in the State kudzu program. Simple monitoring/reporting known or discovered kudzu sites has value.

- Pollinator Awareness Week – Megan Abraham, IDNR for Carrie Tauscher, Community and Urban Forestry Program. Report on Arbor Day 5th grade poster contest in Indiana schools. Ms Tauscher has requested calendar information on invasive species events. Announced National Pollinator Awareness Week 19-25 June 2017-events unknown. Announced National Invasive Species Awareness week 27 Feb - 3 Mar 2017.

- Cooperative Weed Management Areas – Kris Krouse:

Discussion:

(1) CWMA's could provide brief updates at IISC meetings.

- (2) IISC and CWMAs can explore partnership/networking opportunities.
- (3) CWMAs can be easily overwhelmed. Important to recognize efforts.
- (4) Question. Can Invasive Species Awareness Week be used to kindle interest by CWMAs?
- (5) Interactions/expertise exchange would be valuable to IISC and CWMAs.
- (6) How can CWMAs collaborate with IISC conference? There are many positive reasons to include them. Could provide a forum for CWMAs to present their program priorities and needs. IISC could provide speakers for targeted information and resources (ex. EDDMaps). Liz Jackson previously contacted Chair and volunteered to assist in conference logistics.
- (7) Fall conference location with CWMAs at Hendricks County Fairgrounds was suggested. Chair asked for subcommittee volunteers to organize meeting:

Action Item. D. Slack agreed to lead the fall meeting organization efforts and set up a conference call by the end of Feb 2017. Liz Jackson, M. Abraham, Kris Krouse, Cliff Sadof, and M. Warner will assist. Topics could include potential Purdue-provided speakers and printed materials could be provided on how to create a pollinator garden. University research/updates could be presented. Conference time frame is late October-early November 2017. (Previous conference was 29 Oct 2015.)

Action Item: M. Warner will contact Hendricks County Fairground conference center to reserve space for both the 5 May IISC meeting and the fall conference, (date TBD).

Action item: Cliff Sadof will contact Purdue CES to publicize the fall conference.

- (8) Question from floor: Could the conference have webinar or remote audience capabilities? No resolution.
- (9) Terrestrial plant management is highest priority. Jason Larson (Nature Preserves) is a potential presenter.

- Aquatic Invasive Advisory Committee – Eric Fischer

- (1) Current plans are to revise 12-year-old Indiana Aquatic Species Management Plan.
- (2) Reported that 2016 was the first year that no treatments were applied for *Hydrilla* since the eradication program began. Eradication can be declared at the end of 2017 if there are no reoccurrences. Emergency Special Rule may be removed.
- (3) Asian carp distribution thought to still be limited to Mississippi River basin.
- (4) Grass carp capture in Lake Erie thought to be incidental.
- (5) Question: Is Great Lakes Protection Fund an opportunity for resolving Asian carp issues in Indiana? Ans. No.
- (6) Starry stone wort macrophyte algae, *Nitellopsis obtusa*, is a problematic, new invader in the Midwest. This topic may be included on agenda for next meeting.

- Updates from Working Groups

- Tactical Plan

- (1) Heather Reynolds sent a reminder to the chair that a conference call will be scheduled soon to review the plan.

- (2) TP working group includes H. Reynolds (chair), K. Krouse, S. Yaninek, P. Marshall, R. Haggard, J. Bough, L. Bledsoe, and B. York. M. Abraham added?

Action item: K. Krouse will communicate with H. Reynolds to schedule a TP conference call.

- Communications and Website – Larry Bledsoe

- (1) Communicated that the IISC email address receives many questions and requests for information. Routine traffic is handled at Purdue, but IISC business is forwarded to the Chair. On the website, the official plant list is very popular, therefore, updates and additions to the list should be given high priority.
- (2) Cliff Sadof (with P. Marshall): Discussion of proposed Farm Bill project (funded Sept 2017 to Sept 2018) to create a centralized website for Indiana invasive species.
- (a) The vision is a web presence that coordinates a large array of invasive species information and makes that content responsive/accessible to multiple mobile social media devices (screens).
- (b) A goal is to make the website resemble a media device app.
- (c) A hurdle is determining how to integrate/link multiple agency information.
- (d) P. Marshall noted that agency data would not reside on the site server.
- (e) The philosophy of this media-friendly project would be to increase overall awareness of invasive organisms, identify methods to report detections, provide responses or management guidelines, and develop networks of collaboration when needed.
- (f) Question: Where is the current IISC site is maintained? Ans. Dept of Entomology at Purdue.
- (g) Comment: This site could serve as the starting point for a revised web presence. Comment: Development/maintenance of this service could be the responsibility of an IISC Exec Dir.
- (h) Comment: this site could serve as a news feed and could connect with activities of other groups like CWMAs, TNC, National Invasive Species Council, etc.
- (i) Comment: This service could demonstrate the value of the IISC. Grant funds should be dedicated to promoting (advertising?) the service.
- (j) Chair appointed C. Sadof to the communications working group who begin reporting to the Council.
- (k) C. Sadof recommends that the redesign/development work be conducted at Purdue, Dept of Entomology where the current IISC server resides. C. Sadof stated that the time to produce this service is unknown, but sufficient money is available to create a good foundation. Initial details that need to be identified are organizations wanting to be represented and sources of expertise. He stated that a progress report will be provided at the 5 May 2017 IISC Council meeting. This leads to the possibility of promotion of this project at the fall conference meeting.
- (3) K. Krouse requested that IISC mail distribution lists be expanded to include interested organizations and agencies (IPAC, CWMAs, etc). This would (a) make

IISC activities more widely known, and (b) would make promotion of IISC activities easier.

Action Item: Two lists are to be constructed; Council only, and Council plus other participants and interested groups. An escape clause will be added to the combined list to provide a removal option. L. Bledsoe will coordinate.

(4) K. Krouse reported that Bill Fielding pointed out that he saw training opportunities advertised by Purdue and suggested that this type of information be added to the IISC website. IISC Council chair should receive email information for appropriate distribution.

- Forest Pest Outreach Project - Clifford Sadof, Ornamental Pest Management, Purdue Training sessions in to be held in 2017 include; 13 July, Monroe Co.; 12 July, Dearborn Co.; 13 July, Brown Co.

Content will be insect pest discussions particularly for wood workers who receive wood from remote sources.

- Education and Outreach – Mike Warner

M. Warner deferred to P. Marshall and M. Abraham for updates on the Invasive Species Awareness Week and Proclamation.

(1) P. Marshall reported that the proclamation was submitted on 20 Jan 2017 and that 21 Feb is the approximate time for State approval. This time frame allows an opportunity for promotion.

(2) Suggestion was for press release to be disseminated by Purdue Ag Communications Dept. However, since the notice was developed by DNR, then Purdue Ag Com may not want to handle the release. Television coverage was considered. Some type of invasive management activity demonstration might be a media event (ash tree removal at Lugar Farm? Eagle Creek Park?).

Action Item: C. Sadof will discuss role of Purdue Ag Comm in the Invasive Species Awareness Week and Proclamation press release.

(3) Press release should also include mention of IISC website, specifically the official invasive plant list and ReportIN. Pollinator topic should be kept separate from the Invasive Species Awareness Week announcement.

• Emerging Invasive Species Issues and Update – Megan Abraham.

(1) Farm Bill funding was approved for Forest Pest Outreach Program, Thousand Cankers Disease Survey, and APHIS funding was approved for CAPS.

(2) Gypsy moth treatment logistics are in progress. The West Lafayette/Purdue campus eradication site has high priority. Portage and Valparaiso areas will also receive Btk and mating disruption treatments.

(3) Kudzu treatment logistics are in progress.

(4) Asian longhorned beetle has not been found in Indiana. It has been found in Cincinnati, OH.

(5) Sudden Oak death survey in plant nurseries will be conducted again.

(6) Emerald ash borer (EAB) biological control program by parasitoid release will continue in 2017. Parasitoid wasps are established in (Huntington Co.), Delphi (Carroll Co.) and other locations. Parasitized EAB have been recovered 20 miles

from the Delphi release site. Parasitized larvae have also been recovered from Ritchey Woods Nature Preserve in Hamilton Co. A survey of overwintering EAB larvae is needed. Federally sponsored parasitoid releases will not occur if the correct overwintering larval stage is not present in southern Indiana. Jared Spokowsky (IDNR) will coordinate acquiring larvae. Additional surveys in 2017 will include hemlock woolly adelgid, boxwood blight, Chestnut oak wilt (at Patoka Reservoir), and CAPS targets.

- 2017 Conference Considerations:

- (1) K. Krouse stated that IISC-sponsored fall meeting planning with CWMAs has high priority to fulfill legislative mandate.
- (2) Indiana Walnut Council will hold a conference that includes a Thousand Cankers Research symposium on 11-14 June 2017. IISC should endorse this meeting.

Action item. P. Marshall will contact Indiana Walnut Council regarding IISC endorsement of their 11-14 June conference (Thousand Cankers Research Meeting) at Lafayette, IN.

5. New Chair Nominations

- (1) K. Krouse announced that his Council term expires 2017. He requested nominations for Chair to be submitted at the 5 May IISC meeting. All Council other members eligible (including state agency members) except P. Gramelspacher whose term expires at the end of 2017 and asks for a replacement.
- (2) M. Warner expressed appreciation for K. Krouse service to the Council, and announced that he will consider being placed on the list of nominees to serve as Chair.

Action item. K. Krouse will contact H. Reynolds and R. Haggard to determine their interest in assuming the Council Chair.

6. Updates or announcements from the Council and public

- (1) K. Krouse thanked M. Abraham for hosting the 1 Feb meeting.
- (2) S. Norman described the current screwworm outbreak and sterile male release program in Florida. Screwworm was confirmed on October 3, 2016 in Key deer from National Key Deer Refuge on Big Pine Key. An infected dog was later detected near Homestead.
- (3) Chair expressed thanks to Council and participants for donations to provide a gift card for Ellen Jacquart.

7. Proposed next meeting date

5 May 2017 Hendricks County Fairgrounds Conference Center, Danville, IN.

8. Potential 5 May 2017 meeting agenda items

- (1) Council Chair selection K. Krouse
- (2) Council member nominations (replacing Williams, Bausman, and Gramelspacher)
- (2) Fall conference updates. D. Slack (others)
- (3) Website revision/development update. C. Sadof

- (4) IPAC update. D Slack
- (5) Aquatic Management Plan update, species of concern. E. Fischer
- (6) Feral pig management update. S. Norman

9. Next Steps/Action Items

Action Item: S. Norman will contact IN Dept of Ag for Bausman replacement, and K. Krouse will contact Governor's office for Williams replacement.

Action item: resolution of motion by M. Warner that Exec Dir position funding be increased from \$120K to \$150K at next meeting is needed.

Action item: P. Marshall will coordinate the brief invasive species issues and needs summary document for legislators requested by L. Dennis. M. Warner suggested adding a list of possible funding grants to support IISC goals. See Council Activity Report section under "IISC Legislative Update" for more information.

Action Item. D. Slack agreed to lead the fall meeting organization efforts and set up a conference call by the end of Feb 2017. Liz Jackson, M. Abraham, Kris Krouse, Cliff Sadof, and M. Warner will assist. Topics could include potential Purdue-provided speaker topic and printed materials could be how to create a pollinator garden. University research/updates could be presented. Conference time frame is late October-early November 2017. (Previous conference was 29 Oct 2015.)

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2:55 pm - Adjourn