



Maryland Invasive Species Council  
**February 23, 2006**  
Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Annapolis, MD

Call to Order: ~9:45 a.m. K. Kyde, standing in for Bob Tichenor (thanks, Kerrie)

Additions to the agenda

Membership Update

Report on State Invasive Species Plan Committee

Introductions

\*Gary Barkman, Montgomery Co. Weed Control  
Dick Bean, MDA  
Carole Bergmann, MNCPPC  
Dave Clement, MCE HGIC  
Rachel Cliche, USFWS  
Eric Duce, SHA  
\*Tom Elliott, USFS  
Chris Luckett, MDE  
Ruth Hanessian, MAPI  
Lane Heimer, MDA  
Mike Hemming, Eastern Shore Nurseries, Inc.  
Carol Holko, MDA

Sylvan Kaufman, Adkins Arboretum  
Patrick Kelly, AA Co.  
Kerrie Kyde, MD DNR  
\*John Maciolek, Clear Ridge Nursery  
Mary Kay Malinoski, MCE HGIC  
Betty Marose, MCE  
Pete Rupp, MDA  
Jil Swearingen, NPS  
John Peter Thompson, NISAC, MNLA  
Julie Thompson, USFWS  
Bob Tichenor, MDA

\* indicates new attendee

Approval of Minutes, December 2005 meeting (Thanks again, Kerrie)

*Motion to approve minutes as submitted. Motion seconded and approved.*

Membership

Gary Barkman requests voting membership.

Updates:

DNR - K. Kyde

- PLS PTI Grant - letter to communities requesting volunteer help passed out; training ppt almost finished; reporting form will be paper and on-line
- NIWAW - February 26 - March 3, 2006, Washington D.C.; link posted on MISC website calendar

MDA - C. Holko, D. Bean, R. Tichenor\*\*

- pine shoot beetle - 63 sites monitored; traps going out now; higher counts in Garrett, Allegeny counties in 2005, no beetles in Frederick, Montgomery counties; PA and other states have declared entire state infested in order to move regulated articles intrastate freely.
- Carol serves on *Phytophthora ramorum* Nursery Industry Working Group to develop recommended Best Management Practices; Federal Order restricting movement of host material from West Coast sunsets December 31, 2007; comment to Carol, [holkoca@mda.state.md.us](mailto:holkoca@mda.state.md.us)
- emerald ash borer - 100 bareroot sentinel trees going out soon; also will girdle some standing trees, leave for 2<sup>nd</sup> year; IN, OH, Canada no longer looking to eradicate - only treating regulatory incidents
- brown marmorated stink bug - now detected in Prince George's, Howard, Montgomery, Baltimore Counties, in addition to Washington County
- *Sirex noctilio* - 150 mile survey from Fulton, NY planned for 2006; MD will monitor several sites
- Gypsy moth - rise in populations; PA 250K, NJ 40K acres defoliated in 2005; 94K acres to be

sprayed in PA, WV, VA, NJ; MD proposes spraying 24K acres, 64% in Garrett Co. if deficiency appropriation approved\*\*

Coalition for Eastern Invasive Plant Species Control (CEIPSC) - K. Kyde

- Position paper (attachment A.) - wants MISC support
- Who is the Coalition?
- Plan shows merit, but need more information; Kerrie will invite Coalition to present at MISC

*Motion to not approve at this time and defer for further discussion. Motion seconded and approved.*

Invader of the Month

(Bob Tichenor delayed - moved to end of agenda)

Other news and updates

Jil Swearingen

Mid-Atlantic EPPC Annual Meeting & Workshop, August 9, 2006, Morristown, New Jersey; focused on Weed Buster Training; more info at: <http://ma-eppc.org/> (Carol will post on [mdinvasivesp.org](http://mdinvasivesp.org) calendar)

Kerrie Kyde

Maryland Invasive Species Management Plan - committee decided not to draft plan, but to develop MOU-type plans between agencies; need survey of invasive species mitigation activities in state.

- VA survey had good response
- MD will draft survey instrument based on VA survey
- DNR Wildlife and Heritage volunteer, Allegra Schaffer will work on survey (produce, send, compile and report)
- contact Kerrie, [Kkyde@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:Kkyde@dnr.state.md.us), regarding survey elements
- Julie Thompson will help

Sawtooth Oak Committee (Sara Tangren not present)

- one field trip - spreading, but not appearing to be a problem
- should be on next MISC meeting agenda

Ruth Hanessian

Dr. Lazur will present in Las Vegas on survey results of MAPI re-homing project

- positive statistics on returns indicate success of program
- small retail store participation, no large chain stores
- husbandry advancements lead to longevity of pets
- e.g. Siamese fighting fish re-homed to seniors
- ask Dr. Lazur to give presentation at MISC

Tom Elliot

USFS Morgantown office

- Mostly insect focus - need to get more involved with invasive plants
- Traveling to see where they can fit in - contact Tom, [trelliot@fs.fed.us](mailto:trelliot@fs.fed.us)

Mary Kay Malinoski

HGIC - new Website launched

- same URL
- invasives section - contact Mary Kay, [mkmal@umd.edu](mailto:mkmal@umd.edu), to submit subjects
- *P. ramorum* online form to request sample kit

John Peter Thompson

ISAC meeting April 27-28, 2006 Old Town Alexandria

- John Peter is secretary and on steering committee so has input into agenda, contact John Peter with suggestions for agenda items
- still working on white paper regarding definition of invasive species
- BARC budget crisis - may look to MISC for support

Carol Holko

- new MISC brochure has been printed, contact Carol, [holkoca@mda.state.md.us](mailto:holkoca@mda.state.md.us), for supply
- Towson Garden Day, April 27, 2006 - contact Carol for information on presenting for MISC or other
- Eastern Plant Board meeting, April 3-7, 2006 - Session on Invasive Plant Regulations; John Peter Thompson, Bob Tichenor will be on panel; contact Carol, [holkoca@mda.state.md.us](mailto:holkoca@mda.state.md.us), with suggestions for questions for panel
- SPRO letters now posted on <http://nationalplantboard.org/laws/spro.html>; correspondence from APHIS to state plant regulators regarding regulatory changes/updates

Pete Rupp

- Pete now works in Howard Co. - Hiring part time weed control coordinator, contact Pete to apply

Lane Heimer

- 2006 weed control activities commencing; noxious and invasive weeds; hogweed sites will be re-treated

Carole Bergmann

- new website, <http://invasiveplants.org/>, (wins the "How is it Possible that this URL was Still Available?!" award); cooperative regional project of natural resource professionals and volunteers in the Washington Metropolitan Area
- 325 active weed warriors; others trained by Carole have started weed warriors groups elsewhere

Julie Thompson

- working on national northern snakehead plan
- Asian oyster - VA Seafood Council proposing to put out sterile Asian oysters this year; environmental impact statement development ongoing

Rachel Cliche

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge

- sprayed phragmites aurally, established photo monitoring points
- mile-a-minute predator beetles, *Rhinoncomimus latipes*, to be released on Eastern Neck
- trained 20-25 volunteers to map invasive species across complex; 4 volunteers have mapped @6 acres
- working with IVM Partners this year
- New Millenium, Inc. - cuts phragmites to ship overseas to use as thatch - harvest sprayed phragmites; looking for expanses of phragmites

Patrick Kelly

- has been approached by sportsmen's group about having a snakehead bowfishing open season; contacted appropriate state and federal officials; regulators will likely oppose because of concerns regarding establishment of a "fun fishery"

Sylvan Kauffman

- turning in manuscript of field guide to invasive plants of North America, should be published next year

#### Invader of the Month

- March - English sparrow, Jonathan McKnight
- April - viburnum leaf beetle, Mary Kay
- May - multiflora rose, Lane Heimer
- June - gypsy moth, Bob Tichenor
- July - purple loosestrife, K. Kyde
- August - *Ailanthus*, Lane Heimer

Future meetings

Wednesday, April 19 - MDNR, Kerrie will confirm; speaker TBD - contact Bob Tichenor with speaker information

June 22, Adkin's arboretum

~Adjourn 12:15 p.m.~

\*\*Tichenor, gypsy moth update presented at end of meeting

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Holko, Recording Secretary

## **Coalition for Eastern Invasive Plant Species Control (CEIPSC)**

The American lands east of the Mississippi River are home to 191 million people and some of our most precious natural and historical resources. Public entities and private citizens strive to preserve the landscapes and waterfronts that form the foundation of their way of life. **Aquatic and terrestrial invasive weeds create a significant, negative economic and biological impact in the Eastern United States.**

We urge you **to consider sponsoring new legislation** to provide \$50 million annually over the next 10 years to fund prevention programs, assessments, early detection and rapid response, long-term control, research and monitoring projects focused on Eastern aquatic and terrestrial habitats.

### **Invasive species are affecting the future of the U.S. ecosystem.**

- ❖ Thousands of invasive species, a majority of invasive plant species found in the U.S., can be found in the 31 eastern states. Invasive plants choke out native vegetation, destroying historical landscapes and habitat areas.
- ❖ 1,238 different threatened and endangered species, at least 67% of all U.S. threatened and endangered species, seek habitat in the East. Invasive plants increase the threat to habitat necessary to their survival.

### **The fiscal impact of invasive weeds on Eastern U.S. lands and waters is striking.**

- ❖ In 2001, over \$108 billion was spent on wildlife-related recreation in the U.S.; this industry represented 1.1 percent of the nation's GDP. Invasive plants threaten hunting, fishing and wildlife observation that takes place in the Eastern U.S.

### **Federal government entities benefit from recreation in the East.**

- ❖ The 44 million acres of eastern National Forests and 292 National Parks contain a wealth of biological diversity that is threatened by 274 invasive plant species.
- ❖ These national parks are visited by nearly 140 million citizens annually, generating revenue for the parks program.

### **Commerce and transportation pose challenges and provide new opportunities for invasive weeds to gain footholds in our precious ecosystems.**

- ❖ Large lakes such as the Great Lakes, Lake Okeechobee, Lake Pontchartrain; estuaries like the Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay, Mobile Bay; along with major rivers like the Mississippi, Tennessee, Ohio, Susquehanna and Hudson River are major paths for rapid movement of invasive plants and fall under multiple jurisdictions and authorities when it is time to control weeds.
- ❖ The 46 major U.S. ports also provide a continuous source of new invasive weed introductions. On land, the heavily traveled highway system is another source of rapid transport and new infestations of species.

### **Public and private entities must work closely together to stem the tide of new invasions and protect lands and waters from new invasions.**

- ❖ Private landowners face reduced land values and economic losses from reduced timber yields. Many of these properties are infested with a multitude of invasive plants, complicating control measures.

- ❖ Communities are threatened by catastrophic wildfires fueled by highly flammable, rapidly spreading invasive plants.

**Invasive species control is complicated in the East by ownership issues.**

- ❖ Unlike the Western U.S., the Eastern U.S. is composed of a complex matrix of privately and publicly owned lands. This demands exceptional collaboration to create broad control solutions.
- ❖ Comprehensive, watershed-scale control must be coordinated among multiple agencies, associations, companies and private citizens.

**The present federal regulatory scheme does not adequately address this growing issue.**

- ❖ Current Farm Bill programs focus on agricultural lands and do not adequately address natural and/or undeveloped areas.
- ❖ Agency authority is overlapping or unspecified in many cases, creating confusion and hesitance among stakeholders who wish to address invasive weeds.

Lastly, collaborative efforts and creative problem solving by dedicated scientists, landowners and conservationists is severely hampered by the **lack of a central point of contact for all stakeholders** who seek to address invasive weed issues.

**CURRENT LEGISLATION**

The bills currently before Congress, such as the Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control and Demonstration Act, focus on the vast Federal public lands in the west. The Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act of 2004 has not been funded, and the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act is stalled in Congress. There is currently no legislation that addresses the unique aspects of the invasive weed problem developing in the Eastern U.S.

**TAKE ACTION**

Invasive plants pose a growing threat to our ecosystems, our endangered species, and our economy. The Eastern states are facing unique challenges as their leadership seeks comprehensive solutions to this problem. We urge you to consider funding long-term, comprehensive programs that provide bridges between federal, state and governments; between the public and private sectors; and across state borders to protect these precious resources.

CEIPSC is a coalition of Federal, State, Industry and Private Interests

Supported by:

Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Alabama Invasive Plant Council  
Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council  
National Wild Turkey Federation