

## Maryland Invasive Species Council (MISC)

Minutes 16 July, 2015

National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland.

Meeting was called to order by Robert Trumbule, facilitator at 9:45

### Attendees:

Carole Bergmann, MNCPPC	Carolyn Puckett, Ca. Co. Consr. District
Anne Hairston-Strang DNR	Earl "Bud" Reaves, AA Co.
Stephanie Helms, Balt. City Weed Warriors	Matt Salo, Cheverly Green Infra. Comm
Carol Holko, MDA	Mark C. Taylor, MDA, PPWM
Kerry Kyde, DNR	Al Tasker, APHIS
Deborah Landau, TNC	Robert Tatman, MDA
Robert LaRoche, SHA	John Peter Thompson, MNLGA
Mark Lewandowski, DNR	Marek Topolski, DNR
Mary K. Malinoski, U of M	Robert Trumbule, MDA, PPWM
	Jim Young, USDA, APHIS, PPQ
	.
Mark Taylor, MDA PPWM	

1. Introductions of attendees.
2. Motion made to accept minutes of 21 May, 2015 meeting. Seconded and passed.
3. Motion to accept Stephanie Helms as member of MISC. Seconded and passed.
4. Additions to agenda: Bob Trumbule noted that members are on a Listserve data base. Any who are not receiving emails via this data base should contact Mary k. Malinoski.
5. Agenda Items
  - a. IPAC update: Kerrie Kyde and Carol Holko
    - i. Completed eight plant assessments. IPAC has reviewed 6. The six are in PDF form on Maryland Department of Agriculture website.
    - ii. Regulations imposing Tiered status on these species have not been submitted for publication in the Maryland Register To be possibly submitted in August register.
    - iii here are three Tier 1 plants: *Geranium lucidum* (Shiny Geranium); *Iris pseudacorus* (yellow flag, pale yellow iris, water flag) and *Ficaria verna* (Fig buttercup), and three Tier 2 plants: *Euonymus alatus* (Burning bush or winged euonymus); *Ligustrum obtusifolium* (Border privet); *Wisteria* complex (Chinese wisteria).
    - iv. The list is posted on MDA web site [http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/maryland\\_invasive\\_plants\\_prevention\\_and\\_control.aspx](http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/maryland_invasive_plants_prevention_and_control.aspx)

Group Discussion: 1) There were questions about mail orders to other states—there will be a need to contact the receiving state's department of agriculture. 2) cultivars and sterility. 3) Species status of the invasives. 4) Homeowners don't understand the law and are afraid of the "plant police". 5) There is an initial list of 30 plants. 5) There needs to be a definition for "sterile" plants.

- b. MISC Website Discussion

1. The website is dated. Someone needs to sit down with Carol Holko to review and revise the site.
  2. Stephanie Helms and Mike Ellis have shown interest.
  3. Website needs to be linked to Twitter.
  4. Documents need to be converted from Word document to PDF.
  5. Bud and Kerrie will be the editor's "whips and chains" to facilitate timely submissions.
- c. Opportunities to update Maryland Forest Action Plan: Anne Hairston-Strang. (Handout)
1. This Plan supports future grant requests.
  2. Five important issues include assuring clean water, creating jobs and creating landscapes that are resistant to climate change. Invasive species are under threats to forest health.
  3. New plan should be available by November.
  4. State and Forest plans are being looked at.
  5. Draft should be available in August.
  6. Discussion included a suggestion to allow more timely access for biocontrol releases, particularly on state lands, perhaps through an MOU process.

Discussion about National Invasive Species Council white paper. There are difficulties in working with multiple agencies. Problems with permit process application and review. Perhaps a MOU and a "fast track process".

- d. Update on EAB quarantine. The entire state of Maryland will be officially quarantined the first week of August.
- e. Deep Creek Lake field trip: September.
  1. Pontoon tour of the lake
  2. SAV tour with snorkeling available.
  3. The concentration will be on aquatics.
  4. HWA control project opportunity.
  5. Memo inviting members will be sent out on Listserve.
  6. Focus will be on September 17.
- f. Invader of the Month (IOTM)
  1. Currently have April information on the website.
  2. There are three IOTMs ready to plug into the site.
  3. Suggestion was made to put IOTM in the correct order (Kerrie to contact authors) and to save the three ready IOTM's until next year and keep on the monthly schedule.
  4. Group review of IOTM list.

Agency Updates:

a. USDA:

1. Jim Young (see attached handout)
2. Alan Tasker (APHIS)
  - a. Retiring in August
  - b. Mentioned Mark Trail cartoon featuring invasives (with Abbey Powell).  
<http://blogs.usda.gov/2015/05/22/invasive-pest-invades-a-national-comic-strip/>

- c. Abbey Powell; Hungry Pests website. <http://www.hungrypests.com/>
- d. Farm Bill 2016: Comment period August to September 14.
- e. Mile-a-Minute: Someone is looking at a new bio control agent, not a leaf beetle.
- f. Still working on projects.

b. Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

1. Mark Lewandoski.

- a. Reported that this is the second year of Deep Creek Lake *Hydrilla* project. No new infestations.
- b. An instruction video for boaters about cleaning boats now available.
- c. Water chestnut harvest yielded less than two bushels per river. There has been a new infestation discovered on the Virginia side of the Potomacriver.
- d. Mandatory Boat Inspection Workgroup looking at:
  - i. Decontamination stations.
  - ii. make it illegal for someone to transport invasive species to Maryland water supply.
  - iii. will present to Maryland legislature later in the year.
  - iv. also deals with zebra mussels.
  - v. currently voluntary boat inspections.
- e. Virginia USGS water chestnut program dealing with possibly different species that what is found in Maryland.

2. Kerrie Kyde: mentioned an invitation for statewide invasive plant volunteers.

c. State Highway Administration: Bob LaRoche.

- 1. Finishing up Canada Thistle Project. Population is exploding.
- 2. Purple loosestrife is blooming.
- 3. Seeing Johnsongrass.

d. Maryland Department of Agriculture.

- 1. Bob Trumbule: EAB quarantine will be expanded to all of Maryland.
- 2. Bob Tatman:
  - a. Gypsy Moth defoliation heavy in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.
  - b. Maryland suffered 650 acres of defoliation.
  - c. West Virginia and Pennsylvania has a yellow poplar outbreak problem. Maryland has it but is just a nuisance.
  - d. Wood wasp traps have been stationed.
  - e. Prepping for gypsy moth egg mass surveys.
  - f. Southern Pine beetle: 100 acre infestation on the Eastern Shore.
  - g. Thousand Canker Disease beetle traps set out in late July.

e. University of Maryland Extension: Mary K. Malinoski.

- 1. New Dean for extension.
- 2. Home and Garden Center getting information on invasives.

f. Anne Arundel County: Bud Reaves, Jr.

1. Treating trees for EAB.
2. Finding bacteria leaf scorch on oaks.
3. *Hypoxylon* (?) on oaks.
4. Searching out for the last ash trees in the county.

g. MNCPPC: Carole Bergmann:

1. EAB found in Rockville.
2. WavyLeaf basketgrass, Japanese StiltGrass and Kudzu on GIS map.
3. Experimented with flame weeding.
4. Mid-Atlantic Invasive Pest Conference in Pennsylvania in August.

h. Baltimore City Weed Warriors Program: Stephanie Helms.

1. Ending EAB surveys
2. Seeking funding for tree treatment.
3. IFB for Professional Forest Plans for management in Baltimore City Parks.
4. City wide invasive species plan being finalized.

Group discussion about mile-a-minute and bio-control beetles. Beetles have been released since 2007.

We need multiple control strategies.

i. The Nature Conservancy: Deb Landau noted sightings of *Viburnum* leaf beetles.

j. Cheverly Green Infrastructure Comm. Matt Salo.

1. Did surveys of new plants and plant composition.
2. Mile-a-minute will be strong. Ninety percent of leaves had damage.
3. Is seeing Japanese knotweed.

Group discussion about EAB and tree treatment timing.

Adjourn: 12:34