

Maryland Invasive Species Council  
December 6, 2005  
Croydon Creek Nature Center  
Rockville, MD

Call to order: 10:20 Bob Tichenor (snow delay)

Introductions:

Carole Bergmann, M-NCPPC, MNPS  
Eric Duce, SHA  
Ruth Hanessian, Animal Exchange, MAPI  
Lane Heimer, MDA  
Kerrie Kyde, MD DNR  
Audra Lew, Croydon Creek Nature Center  
Valerie Oliver, Croydon Creek Nature Center

Phil Pannill, DNR Forestry  
Pete Rupp, MDA  
Al Tasker, APHIS  
Sarah Tasker  
Bob Tichenor, MDA  
Julie Thompson, USFWS, MARP  
Andrew Ristvey, MD Coop Extension

New attendee: Andrew Ristvey

Reintroductions to Phil Pannill, Julie Thompson. Julie explained National Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and Mid-Atlantic Regional Panel. Includes NY down to NC, the Chair is Frederica Moser of Sea Grant. Bob Tichenor: the Regional Panel is trying to encourage state to develop management plans for aquatic species. Julie Thompson: MARP has money to help states develop plans, wants to work with state ISCs.

Additions to the agenda: none

Approval of minutes from June and August 2005:

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

Updates:

MDA – Bob Tichenor for Bob Trumbule (stuck on Beltway)

- Sweet potato white fly biotype Q, detected in MD last month; highly pesticide-resistant, found on poinsettias; presents a serious issue for greenhouse growers. Stanton Gill has been spreading the word to growers, recommending sending captured resistant flies for testing but DNA tests cost \$100 and growers can't afford to foot the bill. Species can affect spring bedding plants, now being planted, can switch to vegetable crops also.
- *Ips typographus* (bark beetle) has been intercepted in survey trap set near Frederick County importer, collected in 2003. Traps in next three seasons were negative, so the pest has been declared eradicated.
- *Phytophthora ramorum* (sudden oak death or ramorum blight) survey negative for 2005. Funding not determined for 2006 yet in CAPS program.
- *Pryeria sinica*, euonymus leaf moth, is expanding its range from Glen Burnie focus.
- Emerald ash borer survey negative for 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row.
- Plum pox virus survey negative, no more funding for next year.
- Fire ants: several active mound sites found that are being treated, and monitored.
- *Sirex noctilio*, native to Europe, known pest in *Pinus* spp. Detection in Fulton County, NY, Recovered from traps in Canada, 43 mi. from original site. Among susceptible host spp are loblolly pines.

DNR Update: Kerrie Kyde

- Following Gilchrist's bill on Chesapeake Bay that would allow an expanding role for local governments in clean-up projects, with Chesapeake Bay Program funding directly to eligible local governments
- Jonathan McKnight is compiling a list of federal and state statutes and regulations concerning any facet of invasive species management.

#### APHIS Update: AI Tasker

- House bill H.R. 4294 to allow NPS to enter into cooperative agreements with landowners of land adjacent to public land to control invasives on surrounding land. Senate apparently will substitute House bill for its bill, introduced as S.B. 1288, if the House passes its current version. BLM has permission to do this already. If passed, will let EPMTs work on adjacent lands.
- Q37: quarantine of propagated materials; would create a new category for introduced propagative material of species quarantined until proven safe, to apply to botanically identified species that are shown to be invasive elsewhere in the world. APHIS is looking at adapting New Zealand system, but it is very difficult to get commodities out of that system. This will be an ongoing process. Recordkeeping a big issues; one of the Q37 revisions will require recordkeeping that is not currently required. APHIS has a new section – CIAO Commodity Import Assessment and O---- -- [AI Tasker, please supply] --that will deal with Q37.
- Under contract from APHIS, University of FL will take NZ rating system, as modified by Hawaii, to assess currently known invasives to see what the predictive power of the system is.
- Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Program: AI is head of this, matching grant program for weed management with weed management entities, does not have to be state governments. Money will be for grants and agreements for methods development , etc. and rapid response. MD delegation co-sponsored this. Emphasis on tribal projects. AI is requesting some of the funding in the 2007 budget.
- Tropical spiderwort: Round-Up resistant Benghal dayflower; *Commelina benghalensis*; found in 26 GA counties, 12-13 counties in FL; Found in Liriopie in NC, traced back to SC wholesaler, but not traced any further. Issue because of Round-up ready corn. Species is a carrier for nematodes and a couple diseases, cleistogamous flowers, roots at nodes -- very spready, sets seed within two weeks. Federal noxious weed since 1983. Don't have a good pesticide control.
- Andrew: want to add something to the IPM newsletter that Stanton Gill puts out so the growers hear about this?
- Phil: Check in with Larry Kuhns at Penn State who has done a lot of work on Asiatic dayflower.
- PA has replaced Will Mountain, PA state botanist, with Melissa Bravo. Found insects on old hogweed samples, will send them to APHIS for ID.
- NIWAW is coming in February, week of 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Goatsrue, *Galega officinalis*, found in Genesee County NY
- Revisions to National Invasive Species Management Plan are in process, under terms of Exec Order. Revisions will simplify plan.

#### MD Invasive Species Management Plan: Kerrie Kyde

Most of us agree that MISC is the logical place for a state invasive species plan to be generated and passed through official channels to formal recognition or adoption. Surrounding state are either in the process or have completed state management plans.

Individual state agencies and other stakeholders would draft sections of the plan as appropriate, but we need to get started.

Al: FL has plan, some Midwestern states have plans, don't know how far along they are.

Kerrie: collected plans from CT, PA, DE, NY, Julie will send VA plan.

Julie: For aquatic species, there are federal guidelines that have to be included; she will work with us to prepare plan sections; should not reinvent the wheel, but pull things from other plans.

Bob Tichenor: Plan-writing entity has been an officially sanctioned or authorized group in other states.

Julie: There is not policy buy-in in MD to put funding into invasive species management. How do we communicate with upper level policy makers, show them economic figures, demonstrate how much it matters. Agency people should pursue support in their own agencies. Otherwise, we'll just have a plan that sits on a shelf.

Bob T: we do not have a structure for funding surveys to determine economic costs.

Ruth: Need to look at other plans, can they be distributed?

KLK: Will get people a list of URLs so they can look up the plans themselves, with a suggestion for which ones to look at first.

Julie: Suggest forming ad hoc group to develop a framework for contents, and figure out how to approach the policy makers, and collect dollar figures for several key species.

Lane: Suggests going all day to focus on details, not just a morning meeting. Or go to monthly MISC meetings during off-months, non-field season.

How do we include local government representation?

Dust off idea of a legislative staff field trip -- Carole Bergmann willing to plan and manage legislative staff field trip for spring.

Lane: local papers want personal contact to push running the IOTM press releases.

Ruth: How do you get legislative staff out? You feed them – feed them native species, get the insurance industry who's paying for the damage from deer, eg.

Motion: Form ad hoc panel to develop a framework for state IS management plan, and a communication strategy to obtain policy level support within agencies. Second: Al  
Discussion: chair Kerrie with Julie support on aquatics..

Unanimously approved.

Volunteers: Bob Tichenor, Lane Heimer, Ruth Hanessian, Carol Holko, Kerrie Kyde, Jonathan McKnight

#### Updated MISC brochure:

Phil: Cvs other than Bradford can be a problem, suggest leaving sp name in list, and list cvs names in the description. Ask JPT and Larry to word the description and send out via email before the brochure is reprinted.

Kerrie wants to update the references section and will do so and send directly to Carol.

Brochure approved as noted above.

#### Pulling Together Initiative Grants: Kerrie Kyde, Phil Pannill

Purple loosestrife: hired Project manager, Bill Prudden. We will get together to develop initial training materials, get training sessions scheduled, will come back to MISC in February with initial presentation

Phil: Japanese hops, on MISC list, is real problem on bottomland sites, riparian corridors. Have submitted a PTI grant for Monocacy watershed, includes part of PA, for control of hops. Under proposal, will ID extent and severity of population, control hops on at least 50 acres of newly restored forest buffers, compare control techniques for pre- and post-emergent control, get best management practices out to landowners. Develop fact sheet and have at least one workshop; done primarily in-house with own people, but also using NPS staff. Pre-proposal accepted; working on full proposal now. Kerrie and Julie recommended techniques for dealing with NFWF: build in flexible timing and make arrangements to be able to pay contractors with checks, NFWF sends only wired funds.

Invader of the Month: Bob Tichenor

After discussion, it was determined that Bob Tichenor will ask Dick Bean to do *Sirex* for January; Julie will do green crab for February; other winter candidates, Wineberry and Barberry, Carole Bergmann will do in the summer. Reminder that MDA needs the finished draft by the last week of the month preceding posting so IOTMs are timely.

New Business:

Valerie Oliver: Croydon Creek got an \$1800 grant from Chesapeake Bay Trust to put in native plant garden, remove teasel.

Carole Bergmann: M-NCPPC committed \$77,000 for fiscal year to do invasive weed control, hired retired park manager to do mostly mechanical control on invasives, bought new tools. First time ever funded for this. Goats used for demonstration control project in Sligo Creek Park. Operating from invasive management plan Carole wrote 5 years ago; focusing on top ten list of ecological areas in Mont Co and the high-visibility parks like Rock Creek Streambank Park. MNPS is hosting removal projects around the state.

MA-EPPC will have a meeting in New Jersey in August.

Lane Heimer: 20 out of 23 counties have cooperative weed programs with MDA. In last several years, these teams have done a lot of weed control outside of noxious weed law species. Helps to have post-thistle season work for contract people in counties.

Pete Rupp will handle Frederick and Howard counties.

Pete Rupp: Hops is increasing geometrically. Can devastate conservation plantings in a year or two. Control chemicals are also harmful for the trees.

Julie Thompson: Environmental Law Institute has a small pot of money to conduct study for Chesapeake Bay area and state of FL; they asked her what to spend the money on. They already have a compilation of laws concerning invasives. MARP is getting \$20,000 from NOAA to deal with aquatic rapid response, will figure out how it will be used in next couple months.

Phil Pannill: Lots of requests from HOAs to do invasive spp. management recommendations for them, often as a result of establishing streamside buffers. Hard to find native plants on some of these buffers. Writing article for Natural Resources magazine for centennial year of forests and parks on threat of invasive plants for forests.

Bob Tichenor: Explained USFS grant to MDA to do large-scale assessments of weeds on state forests. Need eventual recipe for restoration of controlled, degraded sites.

Andrew Ristvey: Water hyacinth found in Stevensville, Queen Anne's County in storm water management pond 1600 sq ft. Drains off gravel parking lot for auto shop. Community tired of trash collecting in pond, added hyacinth to pond. Visited November 19<sup>th</sup>, saw mat of water hyacinth. Thought that it had been added in 2004, and therefore overwintered. County was to remove half of population and add silt fence to pen remaining hyacinth to see if it would overwinter. But recently plant found to have been put in pond during April 2005. County employee found several other ponds that have been planted with hyacinth. Julie suggested checking gas station ponds by airport. Andrew will check back to see if the plant has senesced. Will work on giving community a list of acceptable plants to use in the ponds. Ruth: hyacinth also sold by pet trade for aquaria, not just nursery industry.

Eric Duce: Working on data compilation from Canada thistle spraying, will distribute when finished.

Next meeting dates and location: MDA, Bob will forward possible dates.

Meeting adjourned: 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by:  
Kerrie Kyde, standing in for Carol Holko