



Maryland Invasive Species Council  
**September 27, 2007**  
Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Annapolis, MD

Call to Order: ~9:50 a.m., Bob Tichenor

Additions to the agenda

Introductions

Gary Barkman  
Steve Bullington, USDA  
Eric Duce, SHA  
Anne Hairston Strang, MD DNR  
Lane Heimer, MDA  
Ruth Hanessian, MAPI  
Carol Holko, MDA

Larry Hurley, Behnke Nurseries  
Mary Kay Malinoski  
Kerrie Kyde, MD DNR  
Pete Rupp, MDA  
Al Tasker, USDA APHIS  
John Peter Thompson, MNLA  
Bob Tichenor, MDA

\*indicates new attendee

Membership

None

Approval of Minutes, July 2007 meeting

Adkin's, no apostrophe

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

Welcome from John Peter Thompson, newly-elected President of National Agricultural Research Alliance - Beltsville. Working through budget issues. ARS funding through Farm Bill. Tour of facility after meeting.

Updates & Discussion Topics:

MDA – Carol Holko, Bob Tichenor, Lane Heimer

- Gypsy Moth
  - 70K acres defoliated
  - Highest since 1995
  - Fungal pathogen
  - 90% in Frederick Co. and West, some in Baltimore, Montgomery, Howard Counties
  - NJ, 320K acres defoliated, ~1/6 of forest resource
- Weed Control
  - Drought slowed down growth and spray efficacy
  - Still treating
  - W. MD will have to cut down *Ailanthus* work, already turning
  - Heavy *Phragmites* spraying on shore
- Emerald Ash Borer
  - Getting ready for two cuts around detections in 1 ½-2 mile buffer, N (exit holes) and WSW (no exit holes)
  - November 13 practitioner forum, Linthicum MD – Carol will post link
  - Pittsburg (Steve Bullington) – Cranberry, PA
    - Not eradicating
    - Delimiting and following up on homeowner calls
- SPHD situation
  - Fred Mann relocated to Riverdale

- Position should be filled in November, temps until then
- DNR – Anne Hairston-Strang, Kerrie Kyde
  - Invasives present challenges to forest management
  - Revamping 10-year forest management plans, currently 15 years old
    - Include invasive species assessment and control work prior to cutting
      - (Tichenor) – Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF) also involved, developing BMP's, e.g. vehicle/equipment washing stations
  - Invasive Species matrix team – weighted toward fisheries but all units involved
    - Objectives: To develop policy and advise secretary on invasive species on state land, support research (e.g. Wavy leaf basket grass)
    - Invasive species Website
    - Poster: *Maryland Invasive Species Outlaws* posted on Website
    - Co-chairs, Jonathan McKnight, Ron Klauda
  - Rusty crayfish found in upper Monocacy
    - If heavy, no other crayfish found
    - Probably transported in bait buckets
    - Discussion – Are out right bans appropriate? Voluntary approach to trading invasives not working on Internet – compete with local establishments, positive advertising, alternatives
- APHIS – AI Tasker, Steve Bullington
  - Ft. Collins APHIS biocontrol meeting
  - Secretary Johanns resigned
  - Cindy Smith – new APHIS Administrator
  - Rebecca Boesch - Associate Administrator for biotech
  - John Bowers – new national CAPS coordinator
  - Farm Bill – \$1.5 – 2M of bioenergy funding – some known invasive species
    - DHS funding for biocontrol of *Arundo donas*
    - Discussion: Need Wikipedia watch
  - Q 37? – “not allowed pending risk assessment” list of candidate species ready
    - Risk assessment – likely responsibility of private industry
    - Criteria?
  - ARS/NISC project to identify gaps invasive species knowledge
  - NIWAW 9 – 2/24 – 3/2/2008
    - move to all taxa program? Increase political and funding leverage.
- Update on wavy leaved basket grass, *Oplismenus hirtellus* – Kerrie Kyde
  - Nearly covering ~126 acres of Patapsco Valley SP
  - Out-competing Japanese stiltgrass
    - CAUTION – pretty pictures of wlbgr and jsg can have opposite of desired effect with stakeholders
  - Perennial, stoloniferous
  - Sticky seeds that attach and are easily transported
  - Evidence that ornamental variegated cv. reverts to aggressive green form
  - Theory that infestation came from landfill, maybe ornamental discarded 10 years ago
  - Eradicated at BARC – Marc Imlay's project
  - Need management plan and funding

#### Maryland State Invasive Species Management Plan (Kerrie Kyde)

- Don't need empty Invasive Species plan
- Need mou's between sister agencies relying on EAB plan and following ICS plan
- First need to know what is going on in state
  - Survey instrument drafted, 2<sup>nd</sup> version
  - Committee will be contacted

#### NEWS AND NEW BUSINESS

John Peter Thompson

- Wall Street Journal series of front page news stories
  - Chicken feathers to plastic - @ Thanksgiving pub date
  - More topics to come
- NISC meeting in Beltsville Oct 1, 2, 3, 2007
  - Open meetings
  - Sheraton in Calverton
  - No response from MISC so no connection this time
  - Visit BARC, Arboretum
  - Focus on EDRR
  - ARS/NISC conference on gaps in invasive species knowledge
    - Early 2008
    - Identify gaps in knowledge and research needs
      - E.g. cultivar controversy
    - Contact JPT with suggestions for agenda, [jpeter@behnkes.net](mailto:jpeter@behnkes.net)
    - ISAC directive to NISC
  - Local jurisdictions recommending invasives

Anne Hairston-Strang

- Japanese hops project wrapping up – want to do follow up project

Carol Holko

- National Plant Board meeting in Solomons Maryland August 10-14, 2008

Next Meeting

- TBD

Adjourn ~12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Holko, Recording Secretary