

Maryland Invasive Species Council
Thursday, May 17, 2012
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Annapolis, Maryland
MINUTES

Call to order 9:32 a.m. Dick Bean, Facilitator

Introductions

Bob Acolupolski, MDNR	Kathy McCarthy, MDNR
Dick Bean, MDA	Jonathan McKnight, MDNR
David Clement, UME	Bud Reaves, Anne Arundel County Forestry
Katherine Cooper, MDNR	Carolyn Puckett, Carroll County FCB
Eric Duce, Straughan Environmental	Matt Salo, CGIC
Anne Goodman, Rockville NSN	John Peter Thompson, MNLA
Ann Hairston-Strang, MDNR	Marek Topolski, MDNR
Ruth Hanessian, Md. Assoc. Pet Industries	Matthew Travis, USDA APHIS PPQ
Carol Jelich, MNPS	Robert Trumbule, MDA
Sylvan Kaufman, CCLC	Sarah Widman, MDNR
Kerrie Kyde, MDNR	Jim Young, USDA APHIS PPQ
Deborah Landau, TNC	John Yowell, MDNR
Mary Kay Malinoski, UME	

Additions to the Agenda

Add approval of March minutes

Approval of minutes. January 19, 2012 and March 15, 2012 meetings

Motion to accept January minutes. Motion seconded and passed. Motion to accept March minutes. Motion seconded and passed.

Noted that Carol J's term as Recording Secretary ends with July meeting. Kerrie Kyde will assume duties of recording Secretary in September.

Membership

- Attendees requesting membership: None.
- Pending members attending second meeting, eligible for vote: None.
- Attendees should review their membership status at www.mdinvasivesp.org/active_members.html

Briefing: Kerrie Kyde, IPAC and Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force and Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species

- IPAC: Task for first year was to select risk assessment system. They have decided to use APHIS weed risk assessment, now in use for PPQ NAPPRA regs. They have been in close contact with Dr. Tony Coop, who developed it.

- John Peter, Sylvan, Carol Holko and Kerrie K will attend APHIS training in Raleigh, NC next month on the system. They will seek answers to questions developed in IPAC.
- Next, IPAC will use 204 species assessments that APHIS has used for validating the model, looking at species that are known problems in MD, to determine if numerical rankings show a natural break to divide into Tier 1 and 2.
- Also, now that they have adopted the WRA tool, will start determining regulations. They will work with the MDA Assistant Attorney General and make recommendations to the Secretary on how to process assessments. They may seek support from MISC in this process.
- Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species: MDNR hosted successful meeting, with two crayfish speakers and two nutria speakers. Members were fascinated by on-the-ground science, not their usual policy content.
- A decision has been made on which MAP small grant applicants to fund, not announced yet.

Briefing: Wes Knapp, Invasive Species Update

- Wes on emergency assignment. Jonathan Mc reported in Wes's absence. Wes believes plants are flying under radar, discussion topic at July MISC meeting.
- Small-flowered tamarisk found in Anne Arundel County has been controlled. Several stems were found, perhaps an accidental incident due to dirty equipment.
- Two species are targets of research by Mid-Atlantic Panel: *Carex cobomongi* is found on barrier islands in NJ. *Vitex rotundifolia* (beach vitex) is in nursery trade in SC, NC, possibly VA, not sure about MD. It is established on Assateague Island, coming from south. Both are habitat displacers. *V. rotundifolia* is thought to be barrier in south to sea turtles' access to dunes. It has history similar to kudzu, thought of as good erosion control plant. Both species are on Mid-Atlantic Panel's "hot list" of 50 species that seem to be preparing to move from one region to another.
- DNR Fisheries employee served snakehead at her recent wedding

Invader of the Month Updates

Month	2012 IOTM	Author
May	Kudzu bug	Mary Kay Malinoski
June	Boxwood blight	Karen Rane
July	Clean your gear	Jay Kilian
August	Mile-a-minute weevil	Kelsey Branch/Bob Trumbule
September	Destroy your science supplies	Ruth Hanessian
October	Chronic wasting disease	Brian Eyler
November	Groundnut ring spot virus	Scott Adkins
December	Japanese Cedar longhorn beetle	Bob Trumbule

- List is provided as reminder to authors. No updates at this time. If there are any changes, notify Bud Reaves. List is online at www.mdinvasivesp.org/invader_of_the_month.html.
- Note correction of longhorn, one word, and kudzu bug, not weevil.
- Members commended Mary Kay M. for the good work on May IotM, which was posted.

- Discussion: kudzu bug – how many legumes does it consume? Generalist; not well-studied yet. Matt T. reported that there was an interception on ship deck from southern port, not sure which kudzu bug. Some countries (Honduras, Chile) are starting to prevent ships from US due to stinkbug, kudzu bug. Could be developing problem. Forest Service starting to look at kudzu bug, concern about trees – no control on the horizon, major legume problem. Said to cause skin problems? See www.Bugwood.org. Though that impact is not documented in literature.
- Discussion: Carol H may need help with updating MISC web site with IotM's, etc. Dick B will talk to her about it, with further discussion at July meeting.

Agency Updates

APHIS PPQ – Matt Travis, Jim Young

- Jim Y distributed list of pests intercepted in the mid-Atlantic since last MISC meeting, including *Megacopta cribraria*, *Trichoferus campestris* (single adult, CAPS pest), *Hylurgus ligniperda* redhaired Pine Bark beetle (CAPS pest), *Trogoderma granarium* (single dead cast skin of Kaphara Beetle), and Red palm mite (interceptions on the rise).
- Note that APHIS PPQ Baltimore office has moved; new contact information is on the handout.
- Matt T – major reorganization underway within PPQ, with division into core functional areas. Details forthcoming. To be implemented by beginning of new fiscal year. Reorg will result in changes in how investigations are conducted: Draft document will be issued soon for comment.
- Noxious weed seeds found in cumin seed at BWI, passenger.
- Federal order on EAB quarantine area is scheduled to be issued July 1, creating a regulatory buffer in states of IA and MO relative to counties in IN.

DNR – Anne Hairston-Strang, Kerrie Kyde

- Anne H-S – Invasive species raised in FSC certification. Most DNR staff have training, like to see that it's done at least in limited areas, to keep them certified.
- Kerrie K – One issue involving invasives on certified forests is clean equipment. Deb, Kerrie and two others were invited by Jack Perdue to advise about clean equipment. State has some direction, but no plan yet. WI BMPs are a model – cleaning equip in woods with water is logistically complicated. Brushing, stiff broom cleaning is more practical option. In west they have equipment washes; practical here? Expense; getting to water supply – large equipment to which water is transported. Probably not feasible: \$70K for one wash station, plus two staff to operate. Also MDE water quality regulations could be a consideration, with greasy equipment washed near streams.
- Grant from US Forest Service to do invasive plant control in sites that are Tier 1 biocontrol, ID'd six sites – 2 on eastern shore, 2 southern, 2 western region, none in central. Conducted training workshop with county team that will be doing chemical application.
- Discussion ensued -- WAMU and NPR now know that there is Maryland Invasive Species Council, due to snakehead at wedding. Snakehead sells at \$6 a pound. Now most blogged about fish on sports fishery blogs, so price exceeded rockfish. Developing a market might not be best means to control, as people may move it due to desirability. Movement of species to the north was facilitated this year by wet spring, which reduced salinity gradient. Valuation of invasive species has unintended

consequences. Sports fishing may drive more than food – world record over 18 pound snakehead from Potomac.

UMD MCE – Mary Kay Malinoski

- With 3-year grant from USDA NE Regional Network, working to develop a reporting app for MAEDN. Will add pest insects and diseases to it, covering mid-Atlantic. Trialing one for MD with UM Extension money. Dave C and Mary Kay are verifiers. IPANE also doing same thing – so linking whole thing through NMAPS: NY, NJ, MD, PA, VA, DC, DE. Purpose is to get more eyes on the ground with smart phones while hiking. Can make multiple reports and submit geotagged photos. Works with Iphone 4s and Android. To find online, search for Mid-Atlantic Early Detection Network. Email Mary Kay if you want to help test it.
- App is also linked on Bugwood.org; Chuck Bergeron looking for testers to give feedback on how to tweak, what else to include.
- Discussion: How to keep verification staff at MDE/UME from being overwhelmed with reports? Concern about bottleneck. MDA does not verify new detection based on a photo. Best use probably for finding locations for potential evaluation. Maybe MDA inspectors can trial it.
- The ID cards displayed at previous MISC meetings are being updated to add boxwood blight, Japanese cedar longhorn beetle, with limited printing. In year two, will add two more pests.

MDA – Bob Trumbule

- MDA inspection program – no actionable pests found yet this year. Follow-ups on boxwood blight – one nursery with positive plants, all burned. Trace forwards underway.
- Biocontrol program – concentrating all efforts on rearing and releasing weevils for Mile a Minute (MaM). First release yesterday in wetland mitigation site in PG County. That's farthest release in western MD to date. Site ID'd by SHA.
- A release site doesn't need to be big. Weevils are readily moving along with the weed. One site was 14 miles from previous release site, 1 year ago. So now concentrating on peripheral areas – western MD, southern MD. Also looking for additional sites on lower shore; Anne H-S and Kerrie K will confer with Bob about it. Jonathan Mc and team will help facilitate entry to DNR sites for MaM release.
- Where MaM being wiped out, oriental bittersweet is invading.
- Another find for Didymo: 3rd stream system in MD, upper Frederick County.

News and New Business

Sylvan Kaufman

40 people attended Pest Sentinel training at Adkins Arboretum. Karen Rane and Dave Clement did the training.

John Peter Thompson

- Visited Morton Brown Herbarium, looked at Polygonum, which was cited as problem in 1960s. Not attended to, now covering MD.

- In CT, NJ, PA, legislation proposed that property owner who has invasive species, can hold source liable for mitigation

Ruth Hanessian

Pit bull legislation is pending in the emergency legislative session in Annapolis.

Eric Duce

Straughan Environmental hired Eco-Goats in PG County for a one acre site. 70 goats brought in. Project was featured in *Washington Post*.

Carol Jelich

Recently attended Maryland Environmental Trust conference at new Robinson Nature Center in Howard County. Invasive plant walk on property was offered during conference lunch break by staff naturalist. Facility is operated by Howard County, has good meeting spaces and would make a good venue for a MISC meeting. Located in Columbia. www.howardcountymd.gov/robinsonnaturecenter.htm.

Deborah Landau

Summer invasive interns start next week. One crew this year will do whole state (usually two, east and west).

Bud Reaves

Working on CBT grant for printing MISC brochure.

Matt Salo

- Main problem is controlling Japanese knotweed, spread east from BWI Parkway throughout Cheverly area. Properties are in different jurisdictions (PG County, etc), creating difficulty in planning control. Maybe Jil's training on cooperative weed mgmt. would be helpful.
- Noticed creeping euonymus distributed throughout all park areas in Cheverly. Could be potential problem.
- Marc Imlay spoke with Bernd Blossey recently regarding weevil release for garlic mustard. Marc would like to discuss at July MISC meeting.

Next meeting Thursday, July 19, 2012, 9:30 – 12 at Adkins Arboretum, Caroline County. Program on goats with field walk. Nevin Dawson will present and Sylvan Kaufman will host.

Adjourn 12:00 Noon

Respectfully submitted, Carol Jelich, Recording Secretary