

Maryland Invasive Species Council
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis, MD 21401
Wednesday, January 16, 2013
APPROVED

Call to order

Facilitator Dick Bean called the meeting to order at 9:35 am

Introductions

Dick Bean - MDA, PPWM	Carolyn Puckett, Carroll Cty For. Board
Carole Bergmann- M-NCPPC, Mont. Parks	Kim Rice - MDA
Tim Culbreth - MDNR, Forest Service	Matt Salo—Cheverly Town & GI Plan
Anne Goodman—Rockville NSN	Bob Tatman MDA, Forest Pest Management
Anne Hairston-Strang, MDNR, Forest Service	John Peter Thompson--MNLA
Ruth Hanessian - MAPI	Mark Thurmond - USDA APHIS
Lane Heimer—MDA, PPWM	Marek Topolski
Shelley Hicks—MDA, Greenhouse	Bob Trumbule—MDA, Biocontrol
Wes Knapp—MDNR, NHP	Tanja Schuster—UMD, Curator NB Herbarium
Kerrie Kyde—MDNR, NHP	Jim Young—USDA APHIS
Damien Ossi - DDOE, Chair, DC CWMA	

Additions to the Agenda

Kerrie Kyde requested clarification of dates for future meetings; always 3rd Thursday

Approval of minutes

Moved, seconded and unanimously accepted minutes from November 15, 2012 meeting as amended

Membership

Mark Thurmond, at his second meeting, was approved as member

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Tanja Schuster Creating a Virtual Herbarium at Norton-Brown and Invasive Spp Curator of Norton-Brown Herbarium (MARY) at University of Maryland
"Creating a Virtual Herbarium at Norton-Brown and Implications for Managing Invasive Species"

- Dr. Schuster presented background information on Norton-Brown, its founding in 1901 by J.B.S. Norton, its collections and its uses.
- Identified the staff of the herbarium (Maile Neel, Director; Niko Anderson, Database Assistant; herself; graduate students databasing, collecting and mounting).
- NBH's collections form the bases for the Brown & Brown woody and herbaceous floras. There are 87,000 specimens, another 22,000 collected but unmounted. This is the most representative collection for Maryland. NBH uses the Mod. Engler & Prantl as organizational structure; Dr. Schuster wants to change to APGIII, a more phylogenetically natural organizational structure.
- Marcgraviaceae, Polygonaceae, Malvaceae are the strongest collections
- Systematics is crucial to do any other work on plants – medicinal, molecular data, forensic; NBH does allow destructive sampling for molecular work, with permission
- Labels contain very important information, especially historic

- Morphological info is crucial for taxonomy, comparisons of collections, plant ID, understanding evolutionary relationships, documenting research, and conserving species (locality, geo-referencing, companion species)
- can document CO₂, change over past 10K – 10M yrs from pollen studies
- See Vickie Funk's link www.virtualherbarium.org/vh/100UsesASPT.html for reasons why herbaria are important
- Invasive species documentation, can determine what spp are native to a range; point of entry of an EIP, how it has spread over time.
- NBH has created a Virtual Herbarium: Vetted, annotated ID, morphological data, geo-referenced data (ARC), ecological info, historical or cultural data, URL: www.nbh.psla.umd.edu Interactive web portal, dedicated server, 21,000 specimens images specifically from MD, does not include Asteraceae or Poaceae yet; 5000 specimens are online, focused first on DNR's Do Not Plant List
- Tabs on the webpage include: Home (news reel and features), Collections (types, who amassed them), Search (the workhouse – to search in multiple ways by genus, species, family, maps, exportable to spreadsheets, images that can be zoomed in close enough to use for ID, thus minimizing the need for loans of mounted specimens; info does not include threatened and endangered species)

Matt Salo asked if the database were searchable by common name. Dr. Schuster said they had that capability originally, but it became too unwieldy due to the confusion of common names. Matt suggested that it be available, if possible, to allow use by non-scientists.

- Search "data only" allows export to spreadsheet format for later analysis; there is also a list of genera and families databased so far so a searcher has a shortcut to what is already posted

Marek Topolski asked if NBH had considered offering 3-D or turnable photos. NBH would like to do that, but are limited because 1) they use free or very inexpensive software, and 2) they are most concerned about getting as many species up as possible.

- Research tab includes downloadable and online forms to request visiting, permission for loans and destructive sampling, direction to NBH, herbarium rules
- Contact page
- Goals for the immediate future: transition to the APG III system of organization; get new imaging system; database and georeference as many plants as possible; serve all 87K specimens online

WSSA—NISAW Congressional Resolution Partnership Project

John Peter Thompson requested MISC's approval and signing on to a letter recommending the passage of a House Resolution recognizing the importance of invasive species and of NISAW, and reaffirming Congressional support for invasive species activities. The letter and Resolution are included with the minutes. JPT has support from 12 state IPCs and a number of other companies and NGOs. There will not actually be a House Resolution because the Majority Leader has outlawed all such "memorializations" as too time-consuming, but Congressman Steny Hoyer will read the language into the Congressional Record. Senator Mikulski's office may be agreeable to offering a corresponding Resolution in the Senate.

Anne Hairston-Strang confirmed that MISC supports the idea, but the group would need to vote to add our name to the letter. We can do that by email vote. *This is an action item: members should read the attached and send their yea or nay vote to support to the Facilitator.

Invader of the Month

Tim Culbreth reported that Chronic Wasting Disease is currently posted. Carole Bergmann commented that it was great to be able to refer her invasive plant ID students to the website to this resource. Reiterated the timing on IOTMs – Tim or Bud “gently remind” the coming month’s author at the first of the previous month; the author submits the article by the 15th of the previous month, so it can be edited if necessary and posted by the first of the target month.

Agency Updates

DNR

Kerrie Kyde: Natural Heritage Program working on county by county site summaries of best sites across the state ecologically

Wes Knapp: He and Kerrie found *Cynanchum louiseae*, black swallow-wort, in Baltimore County, along a powerline ROW and roadside on land owned by the City of Baltimore and under the reservoirs’ natural resources staff management. Concern is that this species spreads out of control. Kerrie sent Reservoir NR staff a GIS map of site and recommendations for control.

Wes reported that a northern salamander was found in a Christmas tree shipped from Oregon. The family who bought the tree kept the salamander as a pet until it died, but how many more such cases are there?

Marek Topolski: 20 zebra mussels were observed on concrete anchor blocks at Havre de Grace; they are being discovered in greater abundance in the Susquehanna and Susquehanna Flats. DNR’s Invasive Species Matrix Team is working with DNR’s Education Matrix Team to build K-12 invasive species curriculum; working on species write-ups for 16 species, primarily aquatic.

Anne Hairston-Strang: Forestry is working on restoration techniques to combat hemlock woolly adelgid, planting containerized trees at Cunningham Falls State Park, using Core-Tect tablets of imidicloprid widely and are getting two year efficacy against HWA. Seedlings plants with Core-Tect have gotten infested, infestation rate was higher during the summer but dropped the next year on protected seedlings. May help keep hemlocks going until an effective biocontrol is available. Bob Tatman: we’re getting 5-6 years of protection out of soil injection of imidicloprid, mostly of already infested trees, the chemical doesn’t travel in the soil

Anne noted that DNR’s position announcement just closed for an EAB person; will hire someone fulltime to do urban forest inventory and set up volunteer-based inventory programs, help municipalities develop EAB management plans; we’re starting to get a handle on appropriate responses to different situations

Dick Bean, for Bud Reaves: EAB plan for Anne Arundel County has not yet been approved

MDE

Not present, no report

SHA

Not present, no report

MDA

Dick Bean: Dr. Ramesh Pokharel will start in March as MDA’s Plant Disease Specialist; he is from the Western Colorado Research Center, Colorado State University.

Four Russian scientists toured MDA facilities in Annapolis and Cheltenham, the Delaware ARS insect facility to view our response/techniques for EAB. JPT: EAB is native to far eastern Russia, but is now present and a problem in Moscow, brought in on ash imported from Canada and the mid-West to replace their dying street trees, see JPT's blog for a translation of the Russian articles about this.

Kim Rice: EAB headquarters is now here in Annapolis; crew is cutting trees to use for rearing and looking for sign; during the 2013 season, we are looking at 39 traps, mainly in Cecil County, but hoping to do 250 if we can fund them. Have the purple traps but not the lures. Dick Bean: USDA funding has gone from 32 million to 4million in the last four years. Can't even set up 39 traps for the amount that USDA was going to supply. Lost one of the EAB crew; now have only four people.

Bob Tatman: gypsy moth is back; need to spray 15K acres in Garrett, St Mary's, Talbot (which has no money to costshare) Dorchester (will share cost); last yr sprayed 1500 ac. HWA suppression will probably suffer this year because of GM work; have been releasing *Laricobius nigrinus*; Two new predators, one from US NW and one from Japan – from the area where our HWA is from.

No sirex this year, no 1000 canker disease, no walnut twig beetle found

Trumbule: 20 yrs ago there was a lot of interest in walnut for lumber, there are existing stands in Wash Cty, and some in Cecil

Bob Tatman: those are low risk sites, 1000 cankers is going to come in from out of state or on imported wood

JPT: Flood in PG County on Route 301 knocked down huge old black walnut; an organized woodworkers group came to cut it up and take the wood; they're online but don't answer emails. Store and dry it and then woodworkers come and get it; they may import wood

Tatman: having hard time finding representative groups of woodworkers

Anne H-S: there is a Black Walnut Council

Bob Trumbule: online nurseries are selling walnut and other *Juglans* spp, have no restrictions to sell into anywhere but CA

Tatman: walnut twig beetle is native to US, but not to MD

Anne: Reservoir watersheds have red pine plantations, way overstocked, good place to look for Sirex

Tatman: we try to spread traps out around the state, we are most concerned about what happens if Sirex gets into loblolly pine in southern MD.

Dick Bean: Did send Presidents Environmental Youth Award for Jake Robinson; US EPA acknowledged receipt of app but no announcement yet; we think he has a good chance.

Bob Trumbule: Funding will determine future of our mile-a-minute biocontrol rearing program; need enough to employ one technician, plan to distribute weevils this year, may not be MD grown; if not, this may be the last year we do this; will concentrate on Garrett County and eastern shore – the extremes of the populations. Prefer to work with sister agencies; feedback from private individuals is spotty and unreliable – they don't do the seasonal survey.

Anne H-S: should we ask DNR forest managers for suggested sites? Tim will do. Trying to hire seasonal crews for USFS grant for survey work in western MD and on the Shore.

JPT: Surveys incredibly important at a policy level, need back up to support future funding requests. Funders need results.

Lane Heimer: It's all about money; we are relying on customers who use our services to fund the rest of the program. Will report on membership update next month

APHIS

Jim Young: Passed out handout of interceptions this month; leaf hopper, one of rare actionable spp out of Mexico. See handout.

Mark Thurmond: Will be attending the NISAW Kids Day, putting together training session for Baltimore CPB officers on seed ID, probably to be held in spring, focused on weed seed, consulted with each port to see what they are intercepting. About 20 spp ; there are over 120 spp federal noxious weeds so have to be selective. Have done this for state personnel, others.

Jim Young: there is a biocontrol for black swallow-wort, *Hypena opulenta*, expected to get release permit for this summer; Damen College, Aaron Weedi ; biocontrol is for whole genus though.

News Roundtable

Ruth Hanessian: Read that many of the pesticides products mentioned have arsenic in them; is that true? Bob Trumbule: not anymore, no arsenicals, but they are extremely persistent, so if they were used, they are still around

Ruth: Encyclopedia of Life done by the Smithsonian will be at the next Science Café the third week in February 19th. Robert Corrigan. Partnering with Nat Geo on photos.

John Peter Thompson: monitoring bamboo laws; CT citizen activists going after legislation that gives strict responsibility for damage done by invasive plants escaping from your property -- YOU have to pay for restoring my property to pre-infestation state. Court case in the Court of Appeals, where a lower court decision is being appealed. Insurance companies are against, HOAs are also against.

Bob Trumbule: what about wind or seed-dispersed species?

JPT: really watching it for nursery industry, has all kinds of implications; There was a move from NC insurance companies re riders for English ivy damage to mortar

Steve Manning's company, Invasive Plant Control, is hosting free webinars frequently, will be showcasing Randy Westbrook's Invasive Plant and Early Detection Rapid Response classes from South Carolina; just let us know if you want to do one. See <http://www.invasiveplantcontrol.com/> click on web solutions for detail information and schedules

National Invasive Species Council will be meeting March 7-8th in Arlington, VA, during NISAW Details & agenda at <http://www.invasivespecies.gov/>. This is a public meeting. One of talks will be Tony Koop's Weed Risk Assessment, which MD is now using to assess the risk of invasive plants.

Damien Ossi: D.C. CWMA is talking about expanding its range, with NGOs operating in and near the District, based on watersheds that flow into DC. Will have a three-month SCA crew this summer to do site based control on non-federal land, DC owned but also foundation or orgs with larger landholdings, where there is good wildlife habitat. Heritage Island, Pope Branch Park near Fort Dupont Park; We are working along the edges of Rock Creek Park, but our grant funding is from USDA State and Private Forestry so we can't work on federal land. We continue outreach and education to volunteers like DC Environmental and to potential partners. Getting our logo onto their websites. Native plant nursery subcommittee – trying to establish a native plant nursery to supply own source materials

and seed. Working with UDC on their farm in Laurel. DC looking at invasive plant law, using MD law as basis.

The Mid-Atlantic Society for Ecological Restoration conference is at end of March, the 28-29 at College Park. Includes a soils workshop on Thursday, Saturday fieldtrips to Biohabitats restoration sites, stormwater management sites in DC. Looking for speakers for conference sessions.

JPT: At the WSSA meeting February 5-7, there will be a morning session on interdisciplinary approaches to exotic invasive plants.

Kerrie: the CWMA at Shepherdstown NCTC cancelled due to Sandy has been rescheduled for April 23-24.

Carole Bergmann: Montgomery County finally hired a Weed Warrior coordinator; will be able to do restoration follow-up after sites are cleaned up; About to start doing Natural Resource management plans for our major parks over the next six yrs, concentrating on EIP management. Starting to train tree crews to do EIPs, not just dead trees.

Bob Trumbule: Callery pear efforts? Lane: will be doing a lot of work this spring, basal treatments with Pathfinder, garlon 4 at the time of bloom. Treated this way, they grow for a while, get sick and die. Carole – did a very late fall treatment after an October snow, and it was very good kill.

Matt Salo: legislative aspect on controlling Callery pear? Bob Trumbule – no regs against selling

Kerrie Kyde: Have concerns about online sales of restricted species; IPAC has run into this with its new regulations, which forbid sale of Tier 1 plants and restrictions of sales of Tier 2 plants. The sellers/growers are regulated, not the purchasers. Maryland can't forbid online sellers to sell the plants, but can let the public know that the plants are illegal or Tier 2. Suggest forming a small committee to look at this issue.

JPT: ISAC just wrote a white paper on this subject; this is a national problem; this is something the small group could look at; bamboo people in New England has scared the nursery industries, but online sales have exploded. There are videos of how to get the most number of rhizomes in a packing box. The nursery industry is concerned—asking how it is to compete if its sales are restricted but the state isn't restricting online sellers. "If you can't regulate the internet, why should we as brick and mortar shops, suffer?" John Peter will forward the NISC ISAC white paper and projected next steps to MISC.

Ruth; applies to pet industry too, talked to a guy in FL who was selling Nile monitors all across the US, he recommended not to get involved unless you can be the cheapest.

Wes: problem for all kinds of industries, plants are going to be low on the totem pole

Bob Trumbule: need some sort of penalty for parent companies

Anne H-S: how could a state do this? Dick: has to be federal. JPT: Yes, but becomes a state problem to enforce.

Next meeting:

March 21st third Thursday 9:30 a.m.- noon; Seneca Creek State Park visitor center.

Directions will be posted on the website.

JPT will check up on using NAL space or BARC

Dick Bean: adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

WSSA - NISAW Congressional resolution Partnership Project
John Peter Thompson
ipetrus@msn.com; @InvasiveNotes
4400 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlborough, Maryland 20772
December 12, 2012

Re: Congressional Invasive Species resolution - Collaboration /Partnership request
To: The Maryland Invasive Species Council

The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA), a principal long term supporter of the National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW), is asking the Maryland Invasive Species Council to become a partner in an effort to get a US House Invasive Species resolution supporting the goals and objectives of NISAW. The introduction of the resolution will be a center piece of the 2013 NISAW activities.

NISAW involves local, state, federal and tribal officials meeting with NGOs, industry and stakeholder groups to examine laws, policies and creative approaches to prevent and reduce invasive species threats to our health, economy, environment, and natural resources including special, ecologically significant places. Events will be held in the US Capitol and in Washington, DC from March 3rd through 8th, 2013.

A draft copy of the proposed resolution is appended to this request for your organization's review and comment.

Proposed Partners so far

- Arizona Invasive Species Council
- Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
- Association of Zoos and Aquarium Bugwood (University of Georgia)
- **Delaware Invasive Species Council**
- **Dow AgroSciences**
- **ESA Entomological Society**
- **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**
- **MAIPC**
- Maryland Invasive Species Council
- **National Environmental Coalition on Invasive Species**
- **National Plant Board**
- National Wildlife Foundation
- **New York Invasive Species Council**
- **Northeast-Midwest Institute**
- Oregon Invasive Species Council
- Pennsylvania Invasive Species Council

We are seeking to create a partnership of organizations. We would like to add each partner's name to a letter requesting the introduction of the invasive species Resolution on the floor of the House of Representatives. A list of proposed partners appears in the box on the left.

We are asking for your support and permission to use your organization's name in the process including letters of interest to Congressional offices. We also are asking you to:

- ✓ Suggest additional organization partners;
- ✓ Identify Members of Congress;
- ✓ Identify Members of Congress or Staff with whom you have a professional relationship;
- ✓ Provide House or Senate office contact information;
- ✓ Coordinate meetings with Congressional office(s).

With the holidays upon us we have less than 60 days to make this happen. Please let me know your organization's answer as soon as you can. If your organization is not able to publically support this project, we would appreciate any recommendations, comments and contacts that you may have. Please let us know if you can support us as soon as possible. If you have additional questions please feel free to call any time 301-440-8404 or respond via e-mail at ipetrus@msn.com.

113th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. RES. ____#

Supporting the goals and objectives of 'National Invasive Species Awareness Week'.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 4, 2013

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of 'National Invasive Species Awareness Week'

Whereas invasive species degrade the environment, threaten human health, and erode our economy's productivity, costing the United States over \$130 billion every year;

Whereas invasive species threaten agricultural production by reducing crop yield and quality, interfere with harvest operations, and reduce land values with an estimated annual loss in productivity of 64 agricultural crops is \$7.4 billion;

Whereas invasive species contaminate and reduce municipal water supplies, alter and block waterways for shipping, increase flooding, and reduce commercial and recreational fishing opportunities;

Whereas invasive species increase the intensity and severity of wildland fires and degrade the soils they infest through salinization and nutrient alterations;

Whereas invasive species are a significant threat to 50 percent of our federally endangered or threatened species;

Whereas public awareness and coordinated action among local, state, federal and tribal government as well as private entities are essential to invasive species prevention and control efforts;

Whereas over the past ten years there have been significant advances regarding invasive species' prevention, early detection and rapid response, research, and control as well as targeted outreach campaigns that more effectively address invasive species issues;

Whereas March 3 – 8, 2013, has been designated 'National Invasive Species Awareness Week' to increase awareness and foster coordinated action at the local, state, federal, and tribal levels, about the importance of addressing invasive species, and to explore solutions to that avoid economic and environmental harm and improve human health;

Whereas over 50,000 non-native species have become established in the United States;

Resolved, That the House of Representatives --

(1) supports the goals of 'National Invasive Species Awareness Week' to increase awareness and foster coordinated action to address invasive species;

(2) acknowledges the importance of preventing and controlling invasive species damage to the Nation's economic well-being, productivity and environmental health;

(3) recognizes the persistent threat that invasive species pose to the environment, including to native species;

(4) applauds the work of local, state, federal, and tribal officials and private organizations and public-private partnerships to the prevention and control of invasive species;

(5) reaffirms its support for prevention, early detection and rapid response, research, and control of invasive species for the benefit of current and future generations.