SUMMARY
New York State
Invasive Species Council

Meeting # 2

12 May, 2008
1:00 – 4:30

Members' Lounge
NYS Museum
Empire State Plaza, Albany

Meeting started 1:05 pm

Present –

Steve Sanford - DEC Director Office of Invasive Species Coordination (OISC)
representing Chris Amato
Jackie Moody-Czub, DAM Deputy Commissioner
Curt Stiles –APA Chairman
Cliff Siegfried – NYS Dept. Ed. Director, NYS State Museum
Dave Curtis – NYS Thruway Authority (NYSTA) representing Carrie Laney, Director
Office of Transportation Planning
Carmella Mantello – Canals Corp. (CC) Director
Tom Lyons – NYSOPRHP Director, Resource Management
Mary Ivey – DOT Director, Office of Environment

(also present: representatives from former ISTF, ISTF steering committee, interested orgs and NYS Museum; event webcast and available for viewing at DEC website http://www.dec.ny.gov/)

Welcome and Introduction – Cliff Siegfried, Steven Sanford, Jackie Moodie-Czub

Implementation updates – Leslie Surprenant (DEC OISC), Bob Mungari (DAM)

Leslie and Bob updated the ISC on contracts implementing ISTF recommendations. *Handout* (Bob) on Dept Ag and Market Clean Stock / Green Certification for small fruit growers and Comprehensive Plan for Invasive Species Management contracts and *PowerPoint* (Leslie) on DEC IS contracts (PRISMs, Education-Outreach, Database, Clearinghouse, Research Institute).

ISAC – Steve

ISAC will be valuable to ISC by thorough review of proposals and in-depth exploration of issues. Steve will submit membership recommendations to ISC within the next week for review and approval. ISC leaders will submit ISAC list to governor's office for approval. Upon governor's office approval, ISAC representatives will be publically announced and charge will be given.

Comments from audience – don't have onerous time or effort requirements; maintain good communication between ISC and ISAC.

Budget – Steve

Presented info on past and present funding and spending plan. Spending plan reflects long-term commitment. Budget language calls for implementing ISTF recommendations and providing eradication grants and includes a specific Lk George allocation.

Discussion on eradication grants, time line and split between terrestrial and aquatic grants. FY 08-09 budget language includes "management and control" not just "eradication." ISC input on implementation, strategy and PRISM planning for eradication/control priorities will inform process to better coordinate a strategic approach.
Action: Steve will share ranking criteria and rationale with ISC.

Ballast Water (BW) – Dave Adams

Dave (DEC OISC) updated group on history and current events in BW mgt and the need to progress from BW exchange to BW treatment, including hulls and equipment. NY's strategy not yet firm; state is planning next steps in implementing own BWM requirements.

Sean Mahar (Audubon) provided information on recent House of Rep passage of USCG Re-authorization Act (Title 5). Sean mentioned NYS efforts will help push federal action.

Regulatory Streamlining - Dave

Dave will be leading DEC's efforts to streamline regulations to enable a faster response to invasions by non-native species. Presented *Powerpoint* on DEC's Article 24 freshwater wetlands permit as an example of an impediment to hand pulling water chestnut (Trapa sp.) on Long Island. Noted that Adk Park Agency has streamlined regulatory process for deploying benthic barriers to control aquatic invasive plants.

4 Tier List – Dave (PPT)

Dave will be team leader for the proposed "four tier" list of non-native species proposed for regulation and for an evaluation system for non-native species. Presented *Powerpoint* on legislative requirements and team's charge. First team meeting is May 14.

Voluntary Codes of Conduct – Leslie, Troy Weldy (TNC)

Leslie presented *Powerpoint* on Voluntary Codes of Conduct for governments. Troy provided *handouts* with example form Florida DOT and voluntary guidelines and suggested NYS agencies signing on may encourage other orgs and groups to sign on. *Action: Each ISC agency will review and decide whether to sign on.*

Open Forum – All

Discussion on eradication grants. PRISMs need info on cost per ac for treatment and effectiveness of eradication grant projects.

Question regarding how much is spent on IS removal for all agencies combined. Don't have figure; funding stream gaps exist due to different funding and sources but not coordinated.

Question on potential for addressing vectors in eradication grants. Budget reflects holdover from 05-06 FY budget language, not ISTF recommendation. Suggestion that shipping industry and others contributing to IS problem be potential funding source.

Suggestion that NYS's economic development agency be involved with ISAC.

Suggestion that DEC Forest Preserve regs limit rapid response capacity. Federal government also has role in rapid response.

Discussion on invasive species transport ban. Proposed legislation prohibiting transport of AIS on boats and trailers on public highways has technical deficiencies. Could permit system be potential funding source while providing point of service ed-outreach opportunity? Ex Maine. Discussion that funding and banning transport should be dealth with through separate processes.

Next Steps – Steve
Next ISC meeting – tentatively late summer at Adk Park Agency. Suggested presentation as in former ISTF meetings (possibly Minnewaska IS Mgt Plan)

Action: Steve will poll ISC representatives for strategic topics they want to be addressed several weeks in advance of the next ISC mtg.

Meeting ended 4:05 pm

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Prepared by:
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