

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Lands and Forests

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The Mission of the NY Invasive Species Council is to foster collaboration and coordination among State agencies, the New York Invasive Species Advisory Committee, and stakeholders across the State to minimize the harm caused by invasive species to New York's environment, economy, and human health.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Invasive Species Council Members (9 agencies)
FROM: Dave Adams, Interim Leader Invasive Species Coordination Section
RE: NY IS Council Meeting # 32; Tuesday November 21, 2017
DATE: November 27, 2017; Revised

NYS IS Council met on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center. Seven of nine Council agencies were present, thereby meeting the 2/3 quorum for decision-making. Director Ray Perry welcomed all.

ISC Representatives Present:

Kathy Moser, DEC, Co-Chair
Chris Logue, DAM, Co-Chair
Karen Feldman, APA
Peter Dunleavy, DOT
Peter Weisbecher, NYSTA
Janet Zuckerman, OPRHP
John Wimbush, DOS

Also Present from Council Agencies:

Dave Adams, DEC
Willow Eyres, DEC
Cathy McGlynn, DEC
Annalise Carroll, DAM
Jerry Carlson, DEC
Nick Marcet, OPRHP
Sarah Travalio, OPRHP
Alexandra von Bieberstein, DOT
Meg Phillips, DOS
Jeremy Hurst, DEC

Present from Invasive Species Advisory Committee:

Elizabeth Seme, NYS Turfgrass Association/ Empire State Council of Agriculture Organizations
John Bartow, Empire State Forest Products Association
Renee St. Jacques, NY Farm Bureau
DJ Evans/ Meg Wilkinson, Natural Heritage Program
Bill Harman, NYS Federation of Lake Associations

Present from Public:

Carrie Brown Lima, NYISRI, Cornell University
Tony Eallonardo, O'Brien and Gere
Jennifer Price Tack, Cornell University

ISC Meeting #31 Summary – Dave Adams (1 Handout: Meeting #31 Summary). ISC accepted summary as presented.

ISAC Update – Renee St. Jacques provided update on ISAC officer positions recently filled, Renee St. Jacques Chair, Meredith Taylor Vice-Chair, and Rob Williams Secretary. A summary of the past meeting held October 12, 2017 was presented. The meeting agenda consisted of Announcements and Update, NYIS Update, PRISM Updates, Attendance Records, List-serve,

Voting Procedures, Call to Action, Solid Wood Packaging Materials, Nonnative Animal Assessments, and a Spotted Lanternfly Update. DEC and Ag. & Mkts met post meeting to discuss administration of ISAC, one outcome was an updating of the Sea Grant/ Cornell listserv used to communicate with ISAC members. Several other administrative issues will be addressed at the upcoming December 19 ISAC meeting.

iMapInvasives Updates – Meg Wilkinson (1 Handout: Statewide Metrics) provided the Council members with iMapInvasives Database updates. 14,550 observation records in 2017 to date, 195,455 since 2010. Bulk uploads 7,121, Mobile app 5,258, and on-line 2,171. Advanced data for Animal Assessments, Insect Assessments, Plant Assessments, Survey, Treatment and Infestation Management. For 2017 to date 106 Projects, 584 Users, 106 Organizations, 188 Species Reported. Working with OPRHP, CRISP, Cap-Mo, and LH PRISMs and other groups to standardize boat steward data collection and database using Survey 123 software. More than 30,000 records this season.

Invasive Species Research Institute Update – Carrie Brown-Lima (2 Handouts: Fall Highlights, and Invasive Species Prioritization- Next Steps) provided an update regarding Invasive Species Research Institute initiatives. Summarized outcomes of the July 27-18, 2017 Invasive Species and Climate Change Symposium, September 21, 2017 eDNA Workshop, and November 13-15, 2017 In-Service Invasive Species Track. Resources available on the Institute's web site include an Experts Database, Monthly Research Digests, and PRISM Call Recordings. Council members sought to be on a steering committee to guide the new prioritization project led by post-doc Jennifer Price Tack.

Deer Management in NYS – Jeremy Hurst (1 Handout: White-tailed Deer in Northern Forests: Understanding and Assessing Impacts) provided the Council with a summary of Deer Management in New York State. Topics covered included an Overview of NY Deer Management Plan (1. Population Management, 2. Hunting and Recreation, 3. Conflict and Damage Management, 4. Education and Communication, 5. Deer Habitat, 6. Operational Resources). The Deer Management Process intends to be cyclical, periodically evaluating public desire for deer abundance and assessing forest impacts by deer to set a desired management direction for each management unit. Deer harvests are then adjusted and population status monitored until public desires and forest impacts are re-evaluated. Data collected includes Harvest data (density, distribution, sex, age, physical condition), Bowhunter sighting log, Winter severity, Deer-Forests impacts, Hunter effort, Sighting rates. Monitoring Deer Impacts on Forests involves landscape analysis-modeling seedling abundance, relative deer abundance, forest stand variables, climate variables, and land cover variables. Monitoring Impacts with Local Data: Assessing Vegetation Impacts from Deer-A Rapid Assessment Method for Evaluating Deer Impacts to Forest Vegetation (AVID). ISC partner agencies are encouraged to participate in collection of local deer impacts data through AVID. Also, if deer impacts are excessive on lands managed by partner agencies, DEC can provide guidance on deer management options.

Agency Updates – Six Council member agencies provided updates as follows:

- 1) Ag. and Mkts.- European Cherry Fruit Fly an issue in western New York. Spotted Lantern Fly 1 dead individual found in Delaware County on a wrapped pallet of product. Species of Vietnam and China origin. Outreach campaign needed with targeted outreach. Draft press release prepared.
- 2) OPRHP – 27 boat launch stewards, 67,000 inspections in four years, 23,575 inspections in 2017. 466 AIS removals. EPA GLRI grant received to support AIS Strike Teams. 2 Terrestrial strike teams (4 member crews) worked on 67 control projects within 39 Parks.

Visited 74 state parks (35 new parks), piloted Survey 123 App, 100,000+ stem removals. Forest Health specialists, 2 teams (East/West). HWA treatments in 2 new parks in collaboration with Cornell University's Mark Whitmore, SPB surveys in Hudson Valley, Oak Wilt report in Schenectady responded to along with DEC forest health team.

- 3) DOT – Applied for state/federal (FHWA) research funds to support swallowwort biological control efforts in a 3 year project, \$450,000. Next step is to develop an RFP for release to statewide research consortium for project implementation. Potential for spring 2018 delivery. Development of the Exit 18 Gateway Welcome Center includes a boat decontamination station and boat steward inspections, planned opening Fall 2018.
- 4) APA – Working with the DEC to revise/update Interagency Memorandum of Understanding pertaining to Invasive Species. Adding HWA to list of priority species. Communicating with DEC regarding standard signage at public boat launches, also new signage for carry launches. As Unit Management Plans are approved invasive species issues discussed. Carrying capacity for lands and waters is a new issue for APA/DEC teams.
- 5) DOS – Agency administers planning and implementation grants via EPF Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. Over past 18 years 24 grants for \$7 million have partially focused on invasive species. Examples include NYC Parks and Recreation for removal of invasive tree species and restoration with natives. On Lake George EWM mitigation (benthic mats and hand pulling). Asian clam/zebra mussel matting and removal. Prevention of introduction through boat inspection and wash stations at 5 NYS launch sites. Hydro-acoustic aquatic plant mapping.
- 6) DEC – Cooperative Agreement in place with USDA Wildlife Services to continue Eurasian boar/ feral swine monitoring and management. RFQ released to continue nonnative plant and animal assessments. Education and Outreach position currently being recruited, in partnership with SUNY ESF. Two Japanese barberry cultivars being assessed for possible exemption to 6 NYCRR Part 575 by the Cultivar Team. Western NY PRISM successful in obtaining an EPA GLRI grant to support a collaborative focused on Slender False Brome which will compliment other work completed to date. Croton River Hydrilla treatment ended for the season, a stakeholder meeting will be held later this winter to review the season and plan for 2018.

Public updates / Comprehensive Management Plan – Tony Eallonardo (OBG provided an overview of the planned New York State Invasive Species Comprehensive Management Plan including eight topical items: 1) Continue to Build Partnerships and Capacity, 2) Develop a Centralized Framework for Invasive Species Information Management, 3) Set Priorities for Invasive Species Management and Advance Preparedness, 4) Engage and Inform the Public, 5) Advance Prevention and Early Detection, 6) Improve the Response to Invasive Species, 7) Recover Ecosystem Resiliency, and 8) Evaluate Success.

Wrap Up – Next ISC meeting will be determined at a later date based on co-chair availability.