

INVASIVE SPECIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
“Invasive Species in the Pacific Northwest”
May 22 – 24, 2012

Benson Hotel
309 SW Broadway, Crystal Ballroom
Portland, OR 97205

DAY 1: Tuesday, May 22, 2012

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

E. ANN GIBBS (Chair)	Maine Department of Agriculture
ROBERT WILTSHIRE (Vice-Chair)	Invasive Species Action Network
AMY FRANKMANN (Secretary)	Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association
PETER ALPERT	University of Massachusetts
PATRICK BURCH	Dow AgroSciences
EARL CHILTON, II	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
JOSEPH M. DiTOMASO	University of California, Davis
OTTO DOERING, III	Purdue University
SUSAN ELLIS	California Department of Fish and Game
BONNIE HARPER-LORE	Restoration Ecologist – Consultant
SCOTT HENDRICK	National Conference of State Legislatures
WILLIAM HYATT	Connecticut Dept. of Environmental Protection
PHYLLIS JOHNSON	University of North Dakota
SUSAN KEDZIE	Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
ERIC LANE	Colorado Department of Agriculture
TIMOTHY MALE	Defenders of Wildlife
ROBERT McMAHON	University of Texas at Arlington
MARSHALL MEYERS	Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
EDWARD MILLS	Cornell University
STEPHEN PHILLIPS	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
JAMIE REASER	Congruence, LLC
CELIA SMITH	University of Hawaii
DAVID E. STARLING	Aqueterinary Services, P.C.
NATHAN STONE	University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
ROBERT VAN STEENWYK	University of California, Berkeley
JENNIFER VOLLMER	CPS Timberland
DAMON E. WAITT	University of Texas at Austin

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

KRISTINA SERBESOFF-KING	The Nature Conservancy
JOHN PETER THOMPSON	Invasive Species Consultant
JOHN TORGAN	The Nature Conservancy

NISC STAFF PRESENT

LORI WILLIAMS	NISC Director
CHRISTOPHER (CHRIS) DIONIGI	NISC Deputy Director
KELSEY BRANTLEY	Program Specialist and ISAC Coordinator
STAS BURGIEL	Assistant Director for Prevention & Budgetary

PHIL ANDREOZZI

Coordination
Assistant Director for International Programs

NISC POLICY LIAISONS PRESENT

OLIVIA FERRITER
MARGARET (PEG) BRADY
MATTHEW FARMER
HILDA DIAZ-SOLTERO (via telephone)
STEPHANIE CARMAN
SUSAN PASKO

U.S. Department of the Interior (OS/PPA)
U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security (CBP)
U.S. Department of Agriculture (FS)
U.S. Department of the Interior (BLM)
U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA)

Ann Gibbs, ISAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Ms. Gibbs welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the meeting theme and agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 2011 MEETING

A motion was made by O. Doerring to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by N. Stone, and the minutes were approved by general consent.

NISC STAFF REPORTS

Lori Williams, NISC Executive Director

Ms. Williams welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all that were involved in the planning.

Staff Updates:

- NISAW was held in February and was a success. All that were involved in the planning and implementation were thanked.
 - Areas involved in include:
 - Climate Change (S. Burgiel)
 - Trade Negotiations (S. Burgiel)
 - Joint ANSTF working on updating this with Prevention Subcommittee
 - Activities in the Pacific with Biosecurity Plan
 - USDA Tribal College grant panel (C. Dionigi)
- It was announced that C. Dionigi was promoted to Deputy Director of NISC. He was thanked for his contributions.
- Stephanie Carman has been on loan in the DOI position in NISC and has done an outstanding job.
- ISAC Membership openings were discussed and members were asked to seek out qualified individuals and encourage them to apply for membership.
- Working with ANSTF on New Zealand mud snail management and control plan and workshop on invasive species on August 20 in Phoenix.
- General Accounting Organization was doing a study to investigate and make sure that all agencies are coordinating properly on invasive species. This study has been suspended, as there weren't any efforts that were found to be duplicative. All were thanked for their efforts in complying with this study.
 - **T. Male – is the letter suspending this study available from the GAO? Yes and it will be sent around to all.**

NISC RESPONSE TO ISAC RECOMMENDATIONS (from the December 2011 Meeting)

- Deferring discussion on this to look at recommendations that are in the White Paper that is up for approval at this meeting.
- On the Agenda for the Research Committee, work is ongoing and is appreciated by the Agencies.
- Budget – Federal travel budgets are under increasing scrutiny and 30% cut is expected. NISC staff is working through these challenges.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Honorable Jackie Dingfelder, Oregon State Senate

- **S. Kedzie – This talk was encouraging. What seems to be working here in Oregon on invasive species?** *People in Oregon are really connected to their environment and the legacy of the land use regulations and invasive species are a big part of this. There is an understanding that the cost of prevention is much lower than eradication and restoration. Rural and Urban legislators “get it”. High level of awareness with the ODA and Universities on this issue and they have done a good job educating decision makers.*
- **P. Alpert – How does Oregon deal with jurisdiction issues?** *This is a web but relies on the Oregon Invasive Species council to work through and coordinate throughout the disciplines.*

NISC MEMBER DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Matthew Farmer, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

- Final Rule for Coast Guard was released this Spring
- Seeing increases in Asian Citrus Psyllid Beetle and other wood packaging pests at all ports of entry.
- Looking at doing presentation on Arundo (Cane) being used on a biomass at the next meeting.

Questions/Comments for Mr. Farmer:

- **P. Alpert – Can you clarify the budgeted amounts in DHS?** *The DHS budget doesn't have anything programmed out for invasive species.*

M. Peg Brady – U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA)

- Ocean Policy Implementation Plan
 - Nine (9) objectives are identified in this Plan and this has gone out to the public for input.
 - Expanded plan was out last September.
 - Regional Ecosystem Protection and Restoration Priority is an Objective
 - Invasive species language is included, still intact, and moving forward.
- Budgetary Issues
 - In the 2013 Appropriations Bill is language on Marine Invasive species. While there aren't dollars attached to this language, appreciation was given to those involved in getting the need recognized and the language inserted.
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
 - Spent close to \$20 million over the past three years on this initiative.
- Draft NOAA Lionfish Action Plan
 - Continuing to work on this.
- Sea Grant projects continue from 2010
- NOAA's ongoing AIS actions
 - White Paper on incentivizing harvesting of AIS
 - Concerned with Tiger Fish.

Questions/Comments for Ms. Brady:

- **P. Alpert – GLRI special action conditions, what are these?** *These refer to conditions of the award for implementation to ensure.*
 - **L. Williams – commended NOAA for taking the initiative on this advance.**
- **J. Vollmer – the numbers for the GLRI seem high. How much goes to prevention and how much to management?** *The funds are dispersed as grants through a competitive process. EPA manages most of these funds. Most were related to restoration of habitats with some focused on preventative measures. Restorations are for multiple stressors that include invasive species. Asian carp was not on the radar screen when these dollars were awarded.*
- **E. Mills – have the Canadians been involved in this?** *They have played an advisory role but have not partnered directly.*

Stephanie Carman, U.S. Department of the Interior (BLM)

- Report submitted.
- Agency Crosscut Budget on Invasive Species Presentation was given by M. Peg Brady, S. Carman, and H. Diaz-Soltero (via telephone). Important to note that not all agencies are included in this presentation.
 - FY 13 presented is the President's proposal and it's difficult to tell how much is dedicated to invasive species.
 - The invasive species interagency crosscut budget is intended to encourage: joint federal agency cooperation for activities that benefit from an interagency approach; streamlining of roles and responsibilities; and increased cost-effectiveness. The collection of this information is also critical for identifying broad trends in invasive species funding over time. Given the complex nature of the federal budget process as well as the particular budgetary cultures of the individual agencies, this exercise recognizes the difficulties of achieving a comprehensive interagency analysis and is therefore designed to present a conservative estimate of expenditures. Even with those caveats, ballpark estimates of federal budgets dedicated to invasive species issues are important to identify trends and set priorities. NISC member agencies provide their reports using seven agreed upon general categories that are closely matched to strategic issues in the NISC management plan. These categories include prevention, early detection and rapid response, control and management, restoration, research, education and public awareness, and leadership and international cooperation. The crosscut budget includes actual expenditures for FY2010, planned expenditures for FY2011 based on a budget, appropriations and/or continuing resolutions agreed upon by Congress and the President, and figures from the President's proposed budget for FY2012.
- There is an overall general decline for each agency in all areas.
 - APHIS – special earmarks (Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, etc.) were removed and/or scaled back.
 - ERS – Also decline, only funding intramural research.
 - ARS – Also decline in systematics funding and scientist positions, thus hours.
 - NIFA – Also decline of 36% and program eliminations.
 - NRCS – increased overall but note for invasive species.
 - USFS – Over 5% of the research budget was lost and acres reduced.

- USDA – Have realized specific increases in APHIS. Decreases have been realized in prevention in positions—losing institutional knowledge, morale is low, and employees are concerned for their positions.
 - DOI – Have not seen an overall general decline. Increases have been realized in research. Maintaining these levels is going to be challenging as we move forward.
 - USGS budget has increased for Asian Carp and Brown Tree Snake.
 - NOAA – no longer have Sea Grant dollars and are down to minor amounts of dollars.
 - Other NISC agencies – Homeland Security, Defense, State, Transportation, AID reported general decline.
- There is an overall decline in prevention activities and effects at the State level.

Questions/Comments for Ms. Carman:

- **W. Hyatt – Is there any information on the other 5 species of snakes?** *Susan Jewell, US Fish & Wildlife Service – We have not given up on these species but need to get them approved by DMB. Unfortunately, there is a Bill on the House floor that includes amendments that will hinder the efforts on these species. Waiting to see what will happen with this Bill but will continue the efforts regardless.*
- **J. Vollmer – It was very helpful to have all the numbers together. The decrease is understandable based on where the nation is now. Question is with the National Park Service and the amounts of their funding?** *NSF numbers include all areas but list them as control and management.*
- **E. Lane – commented that the USFS was increasing their funding by increasing the dollars per State to address forestlands, essentially an insurance plan for these areas. This has now been zeroed out. NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) also dried up on the invasive side. Hope that this is a temporary change for CIG.** *H. Diaz-Soltero commented that these comments were correct in regards to the USFS (refer to her report).*

PRESENTATION: THINGS LOOK DIFFERENT FROM HERE: AN OVERVIEW OF NIS ISSUES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Lisa DeBruckyere, Oregon Invasive Species Council

Questions/Comments for Ms. DeBruckyere:

- **A. Frankmann asked about enforcement on the new ban on movement of firewood.** *Working on raising awareness and education of business and constituents.*
- **S. Ellis – on feral swine, what is the role of the hunting community and their reaction to this?** *The hunting community is very involved and has been supportive.*
- **D. Starling – Need to buffer the comments on feral swine and should not confuse them with wild pigs/boar. There is no distinction between pasture pigs and wild pigs.** *In Oregon the concern is with all pigs outside of fences.*

PRESENTATION: A COORDINATED APPROACH TO IS MANAGEMENT IN A METROPOLITAN REGION: LESSONS FROM PORTLAND, OR AND AUSTIN, TX

Damon Waitt, Univ. of Texas at Austin

Dominic Maze, City of Portland

- This presentation was on the City of Portland, Oregon's "first in the nation" approach towards prevention of invasive species and restoration of natural and urban areas. Highlighted was unification of city code with regards to invasive species; public outreach and education; multiple and targeted on the ground control efforts; and our multiple regional efforts at the county, regional, state, and federal level. Portland is now the model for other cities seeking to implement their own municipal programs. D. Waitt discussed using the Portland model to develop an Invasive Species Management Plan in Austin, TX including the process followed to get "buy-in" from multiple city agencies and the political challenges of implementing the plan.

Questions/Comments for Mr. Waitt:

- **E. Mills – Are there private dollars that fund this initiative?** *Yes, through the support of a non-profit other dollars have been made available.*
- **L. Williams – John Peter-Thompson helped coordinate a workshop on invasive species in the urban environment that could fit nicely with the work being done here.**

PRESENTATION: EMERGING VECTORS OF BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS IN THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE (E-COMMERCE) ERA

Julien Olden, University of Washington

Angela Strecker, Portland State University

- Dr. Olden will present that trade has long been recognized as a primary pathway for biological invasions, but the voluminous, geographically widespread and shifting dynamics of electronic commerce pose an emerging challenge to NISC's strategic goal to "prevent introduction and establishment of invasive species to reduce their impact on the environment, economy and health of the United States". With growing communication technologies and consumer demand, recent decades have witnessed a surge in global trade linked to Internet sales (e.g., nursery plants, aquarium fishes) involving novel invasive species from both established and emerging trading partners. These trends will continue to shift as climate change influences supply-and-demand patterns and as we enter the next evolution of online shopping: social commerce. Using lessons from horticulture trade, pet and aquarium trade and live seafood trade, this presentation will highlight the challenges of invasive species management associated with electronic commerce and explore opportunities for improving the nation's prevention capacities in a changing climate. The aquarium trade moves thousands of species around the globe, and unwanted organisms may be released into freshwater ecosystems, with adverse ecological and economic effects. In her portion of the presentation, Dr. Strecker will present results from the first investigation of the ornamental pet trade as an invasion pathway in the Pacific Northwest Region of the United States, where a moderate climate and a large human population present ample opportunities for the introduction and establishment of aquarium trade species. Results from a survey of pet stores found that the number of fish and plant species currently in the aquarium trade is vast, many of which are considered to pose an ecological threat to native ecosystems. Further, propagule pressure is likely to be substantial, and the moderate climate may potentially enhance establishment of species.

Dr. Strecker closed with recommendations for enhanced public education programs, greater regulation of the aquarium industry, and improved legislation of non-native species in the ornamental trade.

Questions/Comments for Dr. Olden and Ms. Strecker:

- **M. Meyers** – commented on the inaccuracy of a slide that indicated that it is unknown what aquarium pets are coming into this country—this information is known it's just not recorded by the Agency responsible. *Agree with this comment and feel that the point is well taken.*
- **J. DiTomaso** – comment that in the horticulture trade there is a low number of plants that becomes invasive. The average person is looking to reduce water use but that leads to plants that are adapted to these dryer habitats, how do you deal with this? *There is no easy answer to this except to show native alternatives. Have to also be careful of introducing natives from other sources and regions.*
- **J. Reaser** – based on your experience on working with these industries where would you put your attention? *There are enormous opportunities to working on the local level with individual storeowners.*
- **W. Hyatt** – commented that the number of releases was shocking.
- **D. Starling** – thank you for the information. There are a lot of species- specific groups that are involved in fish and are serious hobbyists that should be considered. For the future owners of these pets, could a better job be done educating the States? *Yes.*
- **P. Alpert** – How do we deal with problem of imports that are misnamed? *Isn't time to make sure that shipments are labeled correctly but a potential solution is using eDNA technologies to help with identifying these animals.*

MEMBERS FORUM

Marshall Meyers, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council: Redesigning Habitattitude website and content.

Jamie Reaser, Congruence, LLC: Involved in several projects over the past six months on international invasive species.

Otto Doering III, Purdue University: Working with colleagues that are working with APHIS on economic analysis of invasive species. Working on forest invasive species with climate change.

Damon Waitt, University of Texas at Austin: Submitted a plant for the invasive species list. Held a successful eradication event. Citizen scientists have been trained for help with [please finish statement]

William Hyatt, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection: Looking for funding for a proposal on invasive species. Interested in how to deal with cultivars of listed species in the trade. Running bamboo is a problem in New England.

Phyllis Johnson, University of North Dakota: Quagga Zebra mussels have been detected in the State of Minnesota and they are putting in inspection and cleaning stations for boaters.

Peter Alpert, University of Massachusetts: National Science Foundation and trends with funding research on invasive species are the role of soil microbes, climate change, and the role of genetic diversity.

Patrick Burch, Dow AgroSciences: Working on educating to manage towards a goal.

Bonnie Haper-Lore, Restoration Ecologist – Consultant: Attended the Weeds Across Borders meeting in Cancun, Mexico. The purpose of this meeting is to share information developed by the Interagency Weed Committee on North American interests. First held in 2002, the meeting is limited to approximately 100 attendees. This year a gathering of individuals that were in the Global Invasive Species Network, tagged onto this meeting and have established the North American Invasive Species Network. This group is connected and all members are sharing information through EDD Maps. Discussion took place on a MOU to cross borders to share information and it was suggested that NISC be the facilitator of this MOU. Country reports were as follows: Canada is now covered by Invasive Plant Councils, Mexico-the Rio Grande is drying up and they blame it on invasive species, US – in Nebraska the Republican River is covered with invasive species and the river is running dry. Kansas has now filed a lawsuit against Nebraska for this. Don't move Firewood campaign is spreading. Next meeting is in Vancouver in 2013.

Robert Van Steenwyk, University of California, Berkeley: Dealing with several insect invasive species that are threatening California's industry.

Susan Kedzie, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe: In field mode now pulling garlic mustard. Have seen improvement in legislation over the past year in relation to AIS. Working to educate on the medicinal properties of native plants. Frustrated at the lack of exploitation of invasive plants. Funding issues are causing challenges in Minnesota. On a federal level, it's difficult and frustrating with the level of inconsistencies on the Federal level.

Robert Wiltshire, Invasive Species Action Network: Putting on a conference on "Rock Snot" in 2013. In Alberta the invasive plant councils are reforming into invasive species councils to address the full spectrum of invasive species. Real lack of knowledge and organization there.

E. Ann Gibbs, Maine Department of Agriculture: Gave an update on a positive experience with getting EAB traps in place.

Amy Frankmann, Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association: Reported on concerns with Boxwood Blight and Spruce Decline.

Scott Hendrick, National Conference of State Legislatures: They have a website with a compiled list of invasive species laws from all states.

Celia Smith, University of Hawaii: Community activities continue. Three graduate students – first discovered new life area in the ocean at very low light, second has come up with a new approach for management of coral, third has published relationship between pollution and turtle herpes disease.

Susan Ellis, California Department of Fish and Game: Quagga zebra mussels – there is legislation going through that has a fee on voters to provide inspection stations at the county level.

Nathan Stone, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff: Alligator weed is expanding in Arkansas and is surviving winters. Now the number two problem.

Robert McMahon, University of Texas at Arlington: Finalizing the Qzap study on Zebra mussels. Based on where they are showing up, it is thought that they are being transported. Spending \$66 million to prevent the spread. Commented on his six years on this Committee, all that he's learned, and all whom he will miss.

Edward Mills, Cornell University: In New York the greatest threat is Hydrilla in one of the lakes. Aggressively treating for eradication. Concerned with spread. Other issue is feral swine.

Earl Chilton II, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: Department has started a Zebra mussel awareness campaign. Have an ANS Management Plan that has been signed by the Governor. Got pesticide General Permit in on time for spraying this year. Asian Carp has been found, as well as Cogon Grass. Budgets are being cut. Commented on his six years on this Committee and all whom he'll miss.

Eric Lane, Colorado Department of Agriculture: Past year digitized mapping tool to map invasive species. Provides way of gaining a lot of data quickly.

Joseph DiTomaso, University of California, Davis: Land Grant system of Universities got together all taxa and talked about consistent messaging. Working with Dept. of Ag. on prevention.

SUBCOMMITTEE & TASK TEAM MEETINGS

- Prevention
- Communication, Education and Outreach
- Control and Management
- Research and Information Management
- Early Detection Rapid Response
- Organizational Collaboration

REVIEW OF DAY 1 ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items to report.

MEMBER AND OFFICER OPENINGS

Discussed and members were encouraged to volunteer.

FIELD TRIP OVERVIEW

Chris Dionigi, NISC Deputy Director gave information on the Field Trip scheduled for May 23.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Billy Don Robinson, Native Plant Society of Oregon

- Comments revolved around the use of *Arundo donax* as a biofuel and the risks associated with it.
 - **D. Waite** – were you aware that ISAC has a White Paper on this subject and did you use it in your position statement? *Is aware of this but is not sure if it was used in the position statement.*

- **J. DiTomaso – What is the industry’s position and is there a mitigation strategy?** *Industry is willing to place a bond but this bond is not based on acreage. It also doesn’t take into consideration that you can’t tell from what crop circle the release originated.*
- **J. Vollmer – was any Federal agency involved in the decision to allow this to be grown in Oregon?** *Not to his knowledge.* **Around the proposed site are the agencies getting things in place to prevent the escape around the 90-acre test plot?** *Not to his knowledge.*
- **C. Dionigi – Aren’t there three biocontrol agents for *Arundo* coming down the pipeline?** *Two are now registered.* **With these biocontrol agents is industry going to spray insecticide to protect their crops of *Arundo*?**

Janet Clark, Grant Writer for the Quinault Indian Nation

- Comments were shared on the invasive species of concern on the reservation in Taholah, Washington and climate change and the threatening effects with invasive species and on native plants. The EPA was commended for funding of grants on invasive species. Also NRCS, NOAA, and The Nature Conservancy for their assistance
- Requests – maintain the invasive species budgets for the USFS and NPS, maintain the funding for NRCS programs, and increasing the BIA budget for forest pests and diseases.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned for the day at 5:25 p.m.

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DAY 3: Thursday, May 24, 2012

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JOHN TORGAN	The Nature Conservancy

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LORI WILLIAMS	NISC Director
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KELSEY BRANTLEY	Program Specialist and ISAC Coordinator

STAS BURGIEL

Assistant Director for Prevention & Budgetary
Coordination

PHIL ANDREOZZI
LOLITA BUTLER

Assistant Director for International Programs
NISC Office Manager

NISC POLICY LIAISONS PRESENT

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U.S. Department of the Interior (PPA)
U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA)
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The Meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by A. Gibbs.

**PRESENTATION: FEDERAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL APPROACH TO PREVENTING
NEW SPECIES IMPORTATIONS**

Susan Jewell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is looking at new ways to deal with the long list of wild animal species that could become seriously invasive in the United States. The current process for listing a species as injurious under the Lacey Act is lengthy and expensive. By the time we list something as injurious, it is often too late. Now, too, the industries that trade in live animals are realizing that many of their trade species are becoming invasive problems. Do we have alternatives to listing that would be faster and accomplish what we need? FWS is collaborating on an agreement with the live animal trade industries to create a new way of preventing new species from entering the United States. We are working with the industries that trade in live, nonnative species on voluntary ways that they can prevent importation without affecting their commerce. These industries include pet, bait, aquaculture, food, and display. We are focusing on aquatic species that are not yet found in the United States but have shown a history of invasiveness in other countries and could survive in our climates. By using a newly developed risk-screening method, we can provide the industries with technical assistance so they can decide which species that they would voluntarily refrain from importing or to conduct mitigation. State conservation agencies can also use this information to aid with their management of potentially invasive species and to work with industry on their own agreements for regionally risky species. The risk-screening process was explained and several examples of results were shown.

Questions/Comments for Ms. Jewell:

- **M. Meyers commented on this process.**
- **S. Ellis – Is there a process developed for distributing the information to the States?** *Yes, leaning on the trade groups to get the word out. It was suggested that the Invasive Species Task Forces be used.*
- **S. Kedzie – Has there been an assessment for the percent of buy in from industry for participating?** *M. Meyers commented that those in the fish trade that are involved in the organization are going to participate. Concerned about the “Mom and Pop” organizations and their lack of compliance. Need to go through the listing process to make sure that there is compliance. M. Meyers commented that the agreement specifically provides that this isn’t regulatory.*
- **E. Chilton – will we just get a climate match?** *It will be a climate match and a history of invasiveness if available.*

- **D. Starling – Concerns with the plan that this could be used against trade. Is there a location in the country that a species could be contained for commerce? *Can't open this channel for commerce. There is an option under this agreement to do mitigation.***

PRESENTATION: HIGHWAY CORRIDORS AS VECTORS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Ray Willard, Washington Department of Transportation

Ray Willard is a vegetation management leader among State Departments of Transportation. He actually led the charge to set up Washington's Invasive Species Council through the legislature. That alone makes him unique in his work with terrestrial and aquatic invasives found in transportation corridors. This region's DOTs share across borders. He would be able to explain WSDOT's planning process, use of GIS in prevention, control and monitoring to make informed decisions the following year "on the road". He brings both State experience and a national view of corridors as vectors (experience on the NAS' Transportation Research Board and more). He knows highway rights-of-way are vectors and does something about it!

Questions/Comments for Mr. Willard:

- **D. Starling – spraying weed seeds with mowers, have alternative methods been explored with other equipment that wouldn't spread the seeds? *Yes, alternatives are being tested with promising results.***
- **J. Vollmer – working with the DOT people is enjoyable in that they understand the importance of their role with invasive plants. The problem is with the engineers. Is there any education going on with the engineers? *Yes, a lot of work has been done but it has to continue. Also, public vs. private maintenance is huge. There is definitely room for improvement.***
- **P. Alpert – to what extent can you focus on individual species? *If it's on the list it's targeted but for the rest of the species a broad leaf herbicide is used. Working on focusing on other practices to take care of other species.***
- **B. Harper-Lore – this is a complex area for invasive species. Ray is one of the most proactive vegetation managers on the continent. He is a great leader and has helped other states.**
- **S. Kedzie – Is Washington DOT working with tribes to educate and finance their maintenance needs? *Making progress in this area but this is a challenge.***
- **J. Vollmer – With the budget, has there been discussions with the Federal Highway Administration about additional funds needed to take care of the roads? There are some avenues but with lack of funds it's difficult. So is this something we could write a recommendation on? *Yes.***

PRESENTATION: SCHOOLS, SCIENCE CURRICULA AND BIOLOGICAL HOUSES AS PATHWAYS FOR IS: OPPORTUNITIES AND LESSONS LEARNED FOR INTEGRATED PATHWAY MANAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Sam Chan, Oregon State University

We report on the scope and risks of an invasive species pathway linked with schools, science curricula, biological supply warehouses and aquaria/pet suppliers. To characterize the scope of the problem and explore solutions, we surveyed nearly 2000 teachers from eight states and two Canadian provinces (FL, NY, IN, IL, OR, WA, CA, CT, Ontario and British Columbia), interviewed curriculum specialists, conducted 8 focus groups involving 84 teachers, surveyed and worked with biological supply houses. We evaluated the value teachers placed on live

plants and animals in the classroom, teachers' awareness and knowledge of invasive species, the organisms being used, sources of organisms, disposal methods, and potential solutions to unwanted introductions of nonnative species. We interviewed and worked with biological supply houses ranging from corporate giants such as Carolina Biological to smaller suppliers to understand what, why and how species are shipped to classrooms. We worked with school districts, teachers, suppliers and national science curriculum developers that serve nearly half of all school districts in the USA, on potential pilot solutions and understanding barriers to increase awareness and on processes to prevent the shipment and release of invasive species some suppliers to implement solutions.

Results/Conclusions: We have characterized the invasive species in the classrooms pathway and found the pathway to be relevant and pervasive in the 10 states and provinces we studied, including the entire West Coast from Southern California into British Columbia.). The survey of teachers revealed a high diversity of organisms used in classrooms from biological supply houses, nurseries, aquaria/pet stores, and school collections from the wild. In total ~1000 organisms were listed; some of the most frequently listed species by the teachers are known or potential invasive species. We learned that organisms are not labeled and often do not come with their native origin, specific names or taxonomies. Teachers may not know whether a species is native or non-native, let alone invasive. Approximately 25% of teachers indicated they released their organisms into the wild after use in the classroom. Of the teachers that reported releasing organisms, only 10.5 % participated in planned release programs, such as a salmon/trout classroom hatchery program. We confirmed that live organism kits sold by biological supply houses are a major source of non-native organisms used in classroom science projects. However, we also learned that aquariums and pet stores are sources for nearly 50% of live organisms purchased for use in classrooms. The schools pathway cannot be addressed holistically without characterizing and developing solutions for the aquaria/pet store sub-pathway. Teachers are almost evenly split on whether they will euthanize animals used in classroom activities. We learned about the species diversity of organisms shipped by biological supply houses as part of science kits, surveyed and worked with biological suppliers on approaches to reduce the risks from invasive species. A pilot program by a biological supply house, substituting a native crayfish species in-lieu of non-natives has proven more challenging than expected, possibly due to our lack of knowledge in the husbandry of native species. Our pathway stakeholder's based research has guided the development of products including a Don't Let it Loose message for science teachers and training kits that enable teachers to more seamlessly integrate invasive species into science curricula and promote service learning and inquiry on student-based solutions to invasive species issues.

Questions/Comments for Mr. Chan:

- **J. Reaser – noticed the picture of crayfish packed in living material. Does this project address these living materials?** *Yes, this is a consideration.*
- **M. Myer – Has anyone come up with a list of acceptable species by region?** *Yes, but the problem is that trying to understand these lists is difficult. There is a Sea Grant project that is creating a database.*
- **W. Hyatt – has there been any consideration to outreach to zoos or veterinarians to accept these?** *Yes, but funding is the issue.*
- **E. Mills – starting young and with gaming is good. Also educating teachers is a good way for prevention.** *Yes, this is taking place.*
- **S. Kedzie – having the biological suppliers take these back would seem the natural way to take care of this.**

PRESENTATION: INVASIVE ALGAE AND POTABLE WATER IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

John Albert, Water Research Foundation

The Water Research Foundation was formed in 1966 and is the only U.S. based nonprofit (501c3) that sponsors research to help water utilities, public health agencies, and other professionals worldwide providing safe, affordable and plentiful drinking water. Currently, more than 900 subscribers representing drinking water utilities from the U.S. Canada, Australia, England, France, Italy, the Czech Republic, South Korea, and Israel participate in WRF. The WRF has funded a project to produce a clearinghouse of resources to manage and prevent disruptive aquatic species occurrence and mitigate their impacts. Three Pacific Northwest utilities that have been challenged by algal blooms, zooplankton populations, and other invasive aquatic species will be comprehensively studied. The study will also serve as a model on how to foster regional cooperation in confronting challenging issues. Tailored collaboration partners: Everett Public Works Department, Seattle Public Utilities, Tacoma Public Utilities. <http://www.waterrf.org/Search/Detail.aspx?Type=1&PID=4364&OID=0>

Questions/Comments for Mr. Albert:

- **B. Wiltshire – Algae are a concern, have other species been looked at?** *Not explicitly.*
- **J. DiTomaso – You mentioned nutrients are you using products that tie up nutrients?** *We're working collectively with a sister agency and in order to use this technology there has to be approval from several agencies. At this time are not using this.*
- **L. Williams – Have you done economic analysis on the impact to your operation?** *Not directly but have captured some in case studies.*
- **W. Hyatt – follow up on non-pesticide strategies. Are using some algacides to broaden the tool kit.**

PRESENTATION: RESEARCH INFORMING MANAGEMENT OF INVASIVE ESTUARINE SPECIES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Catherine de Rivera, Portland State University

International commerce has introduced many invasive invertebrates to the estuaries of the Pacific Northwest. Local researchers have studied the biology of these species to help managers rank them as threats to fisheries and mariculture and implement strategies to reduce the impacts of those species that pose a significant threat. Dr. Rivera, a marine ecologist at Portland State University, will present three contrasting, current examples from her own work and the research of colleagues. Together, these examples illustrate how a community of scientists in a region can direct research towards a multi-faceted problem in the management of invasive species.

Questions/Comments for Ms. de Rivera:

- **J. DiTomaso – Did you harvest the crabs by trap?** *Yes, it was all by manual trap.*
- **R. Wiltshire – On the New Zealand Mud Snail, do you see the bell curve on population in these environments?** *Not seeing this in these estuaries.*
- **P. Alpert – Have these results lead to management decisions?** *This is fairly new and not yet.*
- **E. Mills – Were any findings surprised or unanticipated results?** *Not surprising but pleasing what was learned.*

- **R. McMahon – Have negative impacts of mud snails been documented?** *In rivers yes there has been depletion of numbers but not in estuaries.*
- **A. Gibbs – Crabs impacting the soft shell crab industry, was this correct?** *Yes but in the 1950s.*

PRESENTATION: INVASIVE MUSSEL PREVENTION AND CONTAINMENT EFFORTS IN THE WEST: SUCCESS AND CHALLENGES IN QZAP IMPLEMENTATION

Stephen Phillips, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

Stephanie Carman, U.S. Department of the Interior (BLM)

Shortly after the discovery of quagga mussels in Lake Mead in 2007, the western states, federal agencies, and other partners developed the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters (QZAP). This presentation will give an update on the implementation of QZAP, focusing on the prevention efforts in the uninfested waters of the Pacific Northwest and the containment efforts in the infested, high-use waters of the Lower Colorado River. Highlights will include information on the Idaho, Oregon, and Washington highway check station programs that require transported watercraft to stop for an inspection. Numerous watercraft have been stopped and decontaminated in recent years, including 36-fouled boats stopped by Idaho since 2009. The talk will also focus on the implementation of the FY12 Department of Interior Appropriations Bill directing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to spend \$1 million toward the implementation of mandatory inspection and decontamination stations at Federally-managed or interjurisdictional water bodies considered to be of highest risk.

Questions/Comments for Mr. Phillips and Ms. Carman:

- **R. Wiltshire – The \$1 million to Lake Mead was good until it was realized it was redirected. Did we harm other invasive species programs by this?** *Yes.*
- **R. McMahon – didn't see any inspection stations from Wyoming. Are they involved?** *Yes they are and they have inspection stations.*
- **S. Ellis – comment that State plans get very little money and are highly leveraged. Very valuable to the States.** *Yes, this is recognized and Fish & Wildlife is not happy to be doing this—it's simply a question of there is only so much money to go around.*

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Subcommittee on Prevention

Celia Smith, Subcommittee Member (on behalf of K. Serbesoff-King, Chair)

- Discussion took place on actions to counteract the elimination of the State AIS Plans due to budget cuts.
- The White Paper was discussed and other products were discussed including a two-page synthesis for NISC Agencies, possible revision of the text to submit to a scientific Journal such as *BioScience*.
- Topics social marketing, ecommerce issues
- Concern that only four members are still on this Subcommittee and the leadership is retiring.

Subcommittee on Communication, Education and Outreach

Damon Waitt, Chair

- Trailers will be written on the newly passed White Papers.
- NISC/ISAC website was discussed and the need for analytics.
- Communications Plan was presented with suggested changes.
- Leadership on this Subcommittee was passed to B. Harper-Lore.

Subcommittee on Control and Management

Joe DiTomaso, Chair

- Working on a White Paper for biocontrols. A draft should be ready for presentation at the next meeting.
- Discussion took place on the IR-4 Program and it was decided that this Subcommittee would not pursue moving forward with a recommendation that the Federal govt. put emphasis on this program.

Subcommittee on Research and Information Management

Peter Alpert, Chair

- Work took place on moving forward with a multilateral meeting with APEC countries to discuss invasive species in trade.
 - Explore the East/West Center at University of Hawaii
 - Develop contacts among likely attendees
 - Try to nest the meeting within an existing meeting

Subcommittee on Early Detection Rapid Response

Stephen Phillips, Chair

- Work continued on the PCR White Paper and additional changes and additions were provided verbally. Asking for ISAC to adopt this.
 - **S. Hendrick** – one of the changes in the sentences didn't make sense. The change will be made.
 - **O. Doerring** moved to accept the PCR White Paper with the changes as described. C. Smith seconded. Approved by general consent. The PCR White Paper was adopted and L. Williams thanked all those that worked on this paper for their efforts.

Subcommittee on Organizational Collaboration

Susan Ellis, Chair

- Using the list of Invasive Species Councils on the listserv to link information.
- Due to budget cuts L. Williams proposed that ISAC have it's Spring meeting in Washington D.C. during the week of the NISAW meeting (end of February first of March).
 - **W. Hyatt** – **This time period conflicts with State legislative periods.**
 - **D. Starling** – **in addition to legislative schedules, we run into Spring break travel.**
- The National Management Plan is ending at the end of the 2012 Fiscal Year. ISAC members were asked to review the past two plans and provide input on what the plan should look like. These will be sent out to all members.
 - **O. Doerring** – If there is a new administration there would be the need to rewrite the plan.

PRESENTATION: GIANT REED GRASS, ARUNDO DONAX

Tim Butler, Oregon Department of Agriculture

Shawna Bautista, U.S. Forest Service

Oregon has begun a giant experiment with giant reed grass, *Arundo donax*. Last year rhizomes were planted for biofuel on 90 test acres by Portland General Electric in Morrow County. The farmers hope that 20-ft tall canes will someday be a substitute for coal to run the Boardman Power Plant. Giant reed grass is attractive as a source of biomass fuel because it grows fast, like a weed. In fact it *is* a serious noxious weed in some places, including southern states like California, Texas, and Florida. Oregon is on the edge of the range of this grass. It grows well and becomes invasive in warm, wet habitats. In Oregon it has been sold as a nursery ornamental for years. It has also been tested as a crop in Prosser, Washington. It hasn't shown invasive tendencies in the Pacific Northwest, but it has never been planted on large acreages either. We can hope that Oregon is in a zone where giant reed grass will grow under cultivation with human assistance, but not in the wild where it could be weedy.

Questions/Comments for Mr. Butler:

- **J. DiTomaso – Based on the climate change model, do they know what kind of yields they're going to get growing this here?** *No, this is unknown and will have to be tested but the amount of production is directly based on profitability. It appears to be difficult*
- **S. Kedzie – Have you consulted the tribes in Oregon? If so, what were their responses? Have you investigated utilizing invasives that are already here?** *Yes, the tribes have been consulted and they are also concerned. There is interest in other invasives that are economically viable.*
- **D. Starling – With the areas discussed, the fields would be efficient with transportation.**
- **J. Vollmer – The Arundo isn't suitable here but if the tests are successful then the next step would be to modify the plant for suitability for this climate. Are there regulations in place to prevent this from happening? It's a valid question that should be looked at.**
- **J. DiTomaso – about mitigation during harvest with bales, the nodes in Arundo survive so they need to be in a closed container. Has this been discussed?** *Yes, this is a concern and practices are continuing to be discussed.*
- **R. Wiltshire – what formula was used to establish the need for a \$1 million bond. Not sure how this number was determined, but this is only for the initial test row. Would need to be reassessed if this moves forward. There is currently surplus electricity in the Northwest, what is behind this?** *There is surplus but it fluctuates and they need an equalizing power source.*
- **S. Kedzie – with the reality of the stem nodes having the potential of becoming a full-grown plant, what are the mitigation measures for the workers that are exposed to this?** *The process to make it into electricity will alleviate some of the concern but it's a valid point that all vectors need to be looked at.*
- **E. Mills – will this material be incinerated and have the emissions been looked at?** *Yes it will be incinerated and yes once it takes place the emissions will be reviewed.*
- **Shawna Boutista, US Forest Service – Portland General Electric was commended for their willingness to comply with the requirements to grow this but US Forest Service has concerns about the invasiveness. The Forest Service has gone on record encouraging ODA to get it out of the nursery trade.**

- **J. Vollmer** – If this is a valid idea, will the Federal agencies do an Environmental Impact Statement? Challenges with this are that you can't analyze something that isn't grown yet.

PRESENTATION: EVALUATING INCENTIVES THAT PROMOTE THE HARVEST OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Susan Pasko, U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA)

"Invasivory," or utilization of invasive species for food, clothing, and other uses has recently received significant public interest and media attention as a means to control and manage invasive species. However, such use also raises possible concerns from both biological and socioeconomic perspectives that could unintentionally lead to more substantial invasions or incentives to spread invasive species more widely. What do decision makers need to know in order to effectively evaluate whether a given incentive to encourage harvest and use of invasive species will achieve its intended purpose? We will review the options and discuss how ISAC can lead the way in this previously unexplored policy.

- **R. Wiltshire** commended the work that has been done on this and asked for volunteers for turning this into an ISAC White Paper.
- **S. Kedzie** – occurred to her that there is a lack of training and certification for those that want to participate in this type of program. Is a general overview and hasn't been taken to that level and isn't sure if this is appropriate.
- **M. Meyers** – there is issue with this appearing to be a NISC document when it should be an ISAC document. It raises interesting FACA issues.
- **L. Williams** – this was a plea from the agencies for ISAC to address this. This is a potentially broad issue and help was requested to do background work and narrow the scope. Now ISAC members should step up and take it to the next level.
- **R. Wiltshire** – worked hard to keep this under ISAC control at all times. The only ones that have seen this information are those involved in this project.
- **M. Meyers** – now it's up to ISAC. Volunteered to be on this task force.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION: DRAFT WHITE PAPER ON INVASIVE SPECIES AND E-COMMERCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS (SUBCOMMITTEE ON PREVENTION)

Kristina Serbesoff-King, The Nature Conservancy

The Prevention subcommittee presented the most recent draft of the Ecommerce white paper. The purpose of this document is to provide a background on the role of electronic commerce (or e-commerce) in facilitating the transport and distribution of invasive species and to provide recommendations to ISAC for review and adoption.

Comments:

- **P. Johnson** - #6 with reference to taxonomic resources, this should be generalized to say USDA.
- **A. Gibbs** - the acronyms need to be spelled out.
- **D. Starling** – seeing a lack of discussion or addressing the equivalent concerns under the Sanitary and Phyto Sanitary requirements, the definition of livestock is not clearly laid out. Would like to see a direct reference to USDA being involved in livestock.
- **S. Burgiel** – this has been included on page 6 of the Paper.
- **D. Starling** – recommended that this be a follow up once these are adopted.

- **P. Alpert presented this additional recommendation:** DOI/USFWS and USDA/APHIS: All commercial imports of living species should be labeled with the scientific name of the species.
- **M. Meyers** – Since 1981 under the Lacey Act provides that this is done and it is a felony to violate this.
- **C. Smith** – there is general concern that this is too broad. The Subcommittee wondered if this was appropriate.
- **S. Jewell** – should indicate live specimens vs. species. Also should include eggs.
- **M. Meyers** – the Lacey Act covers live and dead. Does not recommend creating new definitions that are already in law.
- **J. Reaser** – there has been extensive discussion on this at the Subcommittee level. Adding P. Alpert’s additional recommendation is not supported.
- **P. Johnson** – agrees with this comment and supports dropping this for now and looking at systematics and taxonomy at a future meeting.
- **C. Smith** – in the algae world it is not practical, even though it is a good goal.
- **P. Alpert** – it was simultaneously argued that it is being done and that it’s not possible.
- **C. Smith** – that’s accurate as it isn’t even across the board.
- **M. Meyers** – they will put on the scientific name but may not take it down.

It was moved by R. Wiltshire to approve the E-Commerce White Paper as written. Seconded by R. McMahon. Approved by general consent.

Action Item that this idea be referred back to the Prevention Subcommittee: DOI/USFWS and USDA/APHIS: All commercial imports of living species should be labeled with the scientific name of the species.

- **P. Johnson** – this is still much bigger than a simple action item.
- **P. Alpert** – if you don’t have the resources to do this then this action item will spur this.
- **J. Reaser** – this should be referred back to Prevention Subcommittee. There are other Action Items on this that should be reviewed.

Agreed that this would go back to the Prevention Subcommittee.

FINAL ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Recommendations

A. Invasive Species and E-commerce — Recommendations to NISC member agencies:

We conclude that relevant federal agencies need to adjust existing regulations and enforcement practices to better mitigate the risks of trade and transport of invasive species through e-commerce. We offer the following recommendations to enhance our collective ability to engage in e-commerce without promoting the introduction or spread of invasive and potentially invasive species.

- 1) DOI/USFWS and USDA/APHIS: Expedite listing processes for national importation of injurious wildlife and other animals and noxious plants under the Lacey Act, the Plant Protection Act, and the Animal Health Protection Act to better assess and address emerging invasive species threats, including those associated with e-commerce.

C. Smith moved to accept this recommendation with the amended language. Seconded by B. Harper-Lore. M. Meyers abstained. Approved by general consent.
a. D. Starling offered a slight rewrite.

- 2) DOI/USFWS: Incorporate all species-specific data submitted with Form 3-177 declarations for wildlife imports into LEMIS or another accessible database.

K. Serbesoff-King moved to approve the recommendation as written. Seconded by C. Smith. Approved by general consent.

- 3) DHS: Expand cooperation with USPS to monitor and increase the capability to interdict international mail containing potentially invasive species and encourage USPS to expedite requirements for advance electronic manifests associated with packages sent through international mail similar to current practice for international express mail and consignments.

M. Meyer moved to approve the recommendation as written. R. Wiltshire seconded. Approved by general consent.

- 4) USDA/APHIS: Expand the scope of webcrawlers and related enforcement and monitoring activities used by the Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance (SITC) unit to include a broader array of invasive plants and plant pests, and enhance cooperation with USFWS to address injurious wildlife.

E. Lane moved to approve the recommendation as written. C Smith seconded. Approved by general consent.

- 5) USDA/Agricultural Research Service: Support development of and capacity for an Internet clearinghouse of federal and state-listed invasive species such as injurious wildlife, other animals, and noxious weeds and of relevant regulations. Such a resource could be located at the National Agricultural Library (NAL) Invasive Species Information Center or another appropriate website and should include relevant agency contact information and a general reporting form that allows the public to report suspected violations.

B. Harper-Lore moved to approve the recommendation as written. Seconded by E. Mills. Approved by general consent.

- 6) DOI/USFWS, USDA/APHIS, DOC/NOAA and other relevant agencies: Provide a reference catalog or database of taxonomic resources that commercial interests can use to verify the taxonomic identity of organisms in trade.

M. Meyers moved to accept the recommendation as written. Seconded by N. Stone. Approved by general consent.

- 7) Department of State and Office of the US Trade Representative: Given that a significant portion of e-commerce entities are based outside the U.S., explore further cooperative and legal measures with foreign trading partners and relevant international institutions and other bodies to address the illegal import of invasive species into the U.S.

K. Sebersoff moved to approve the recommendation as written. Seconded by R. McMahon. Approved by general consent.

- a. *D. Starling – suggested language.*

- 8) DOI/USFWS, USDA/APHIS and DOC/NOAA: Promote outreach to individuals and businesses involved in the sale and exchange of species over the Internet to reduce intentional and unintentional sales or purchases of species listed as invasive in the U.S. or particular states.

M. Meyers moved to accept the recommendation as written. Seconded by D. Waitt. Approved by general consent.

- a. **J. Vollmer** – is it assumed that when we say development that funding goes with this or do we need to add this at the end?
 - b. **K. Serbesoff-King** – it isn't assumed but is it appropriate?
 - c. **R. McMahon** – the Agencies have to report back and we can then make further suggestions if they aren't doing what is needed.
 - d. **O. Doerring** – best to not make it too specific.
 - e. **J. Vollmer** – we should recommend funding.
- 9) (Added 5/24/12) DOI/USFWS and USDA/APHIS: All commercial imports of living species should be labeled with the scientific name of the species.

P. Alpert moved to approve the recommendation as written. There was no second and the motion failed.

B. Validation of PCR-Based Assays and Laboratory Accreditation for Environmental Detection of Aquatic Invasive Species Recommendations:

To encourage the development of a validation/accreditation system for AIS eDNA detection methodologies and laboratories ISAC recommends that the NISC member Departments and Agencies and their partners consider adoption of the following recommendations:

- 1) Encourage and develop funding for the National Academy of Sciences to undertake a review of the reliability and effectiveness of PCR and other DNA-based applications for detecting AIS, focusing on establishment of appropriate validation processes and a framework and standards for this new and potentially invaluable tool in the early detection, eradication, prevention and control of AIS.

O. Doerring moved to accept this recommendation as written. Seconded by D. Waitt. Approved by general consent.

- 2) Establish and fund an ongoing independent performance testing program for laboratories utilizing DNA-based AIS detection methodologies such as that recently undertaken for evaluating laboratory performance in PCR detection of dreissenid mussel larvae (Frischer et al. 2011). Testing results should be made public so that managers may make informed decisions about the accuracy and reliability of a laboratory's performance when including an eDNA component in an AIS monitoring and early detection system.

S. Phillips moved to accept this recommendation as written. Seconded by C. Smith. Approved by general consent.

- 3) Utilize lessons learned in establishing a laboratory performance testing system to fully develop a validation/accreditation program(s) for other invasive species eDNA methodologies and laboratories.

S. Phillips moved to approve this recommendation as written. Seconded by N. Stone. Approved by general consent.

C. RECOMMENDATION TO FHWA/USDOT:

BACKGROUND:

Fifty (50) State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) manage 17 million acres of roadsides or rights-of-way (ROWs) across the nation. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides funding for new construction/upgrade projects on interstate, state, county and municipality highways. These are called Federal-Aid Highways and they are maintained by state and local agencies after completion.

New projects, considered “road improvements” disturb soils. The movement of soils and gravel during highway work, and/or disturbance of competitive vegetation, increase the opportunity for invasive plant/noxious weed seed introduction and release. Best management practices to prevent or reduce invasions is necessary. On completion of construction, all maintenance responsibility transfers to the state and local agencies. The cost of prevention, as well as the cost of vegetation management after construction of these disturbed sites continues to stress local and state budgets at the same time they diminish.

THEREFORE:

ISAC recommends the FHWA/USDOT require the inventory and control of invasive and noxious terrestrial and aquatic vegetation at all stages of construction/upgrade projects, beginning in FY14.

Inventory and control should include but not be limited to the following preventative actions:

1. Inventory and control of existing corridor vegetation before project begins
2. Specify weed-free gravel, soils and mulches on each project
3. Clean construction/maintenance equipment before, during and after project
4. Construction funding be accountable for the costs associated with invasive and noxious vegetation monitoring/control following the project until a stable, sustainable plant community is reached, not to exceed 5 years following the project completion

B. Harper-Lore moved to accept this recommendation as written. Seconded by J. Vollmer. Approved by general consent.

M. Brady – was the intent to exclude aquatics?

P. Johnson – point #5 is an unfunded mandate and it should either be modified or struck.

B. Harper-Lore – this has already be done.

N. Stone – is there such a thing as a weed free gravel?

E. Lane – there is such a program for hay.

S. Ellis – if this applies to federal grants than can see P. Johnson’s comment.

R. Wiltshire – As this is written it’s a recommendation to the federal agency.

Do we have the authority to do anything at the State level?

B. Harper-Lore – could include aquatic invasive weeds.

P. Burch – anything involved in the construction project is included in this recommendation.

R. McMahon – can we just say terrestrial and aquatic?

Action Items

- 1) From the Communication, Education and Outreach Subcommittee: Presented the Communications Plan, with changes, for approval by ISAC.

Approved.

- 2) Referred back to the Prevention Subcommittee:
DOI/USFWS and USDA/APHIS: All commercial imports of living species should be labeled with the scientific name of the species.

DISCUSSION:

Membership openings, interim officers

- The Slate of Officers that will begin October 25, 2012 was presented as follows: Chair - R. Wiltshire, Vice-Chair – S. Ellis, Secretary – N. Stone.

It was moved by O. Doerring to approve the slate of Officers as written. Seconded by R. McMahon. Approved by general consent.

- Steering Committee – E. Mills, D. Starling, D. Waitt, B. Harper-Lore, M. Meyers, R. Van Steenyk have all indicated interest on this Committee.

It was moved by C. Smith to accept the slate for the Steering Committee. Seconded by R. McMahon. Approved by general consent.

- The Fall ISAC Meeting was discussed.
 - **M. Brady** – ANSTF is meeting the second week of November, the week of the 12th.
 - **R. Wiltshire** – if we move the Spring meeting to coincide with NISAW it leaves a short time span between meetings. Should do it as early as possible, but within fiscal year constraints.
 - **R. VanSteenwyk** – ESA meeting is the week of November 12.
 - **E. Lane** – the Western Week meeting is November 27-29.
 - **L. Williams** - commented that the week of October 28 is what will be looked at but a poll will be taken after this meeting.
- A. Gibbs thanked the members of the Steering Committee and ISAC for their help during her tenure on ISAC. She indicated that this has been a great learning experience and appreciates the friendships that have been made. This group is a great resource for the Federal Government and should continue to elevate and be utilized.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.