

Wisconsin Invasive Species Council Meeting

May 17, 2023
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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Attendees: Tara Bergeson, Tom Bressner, Andrea Diss-Torrance, Jason Granberg, Drew Feldkirchner, Kari Fenske, Brian Kuhn, Christa Schaefer, Rebecca Szymkowski, Lauren Leckwee, Greg Long, Tom Buechel, Jennifer Hauxwell, Bob Stroess, Hannah Spaul, Mackenzie Manicki, Maureen Kalscheur, Rebecca Gray

AGENDA

Meeting called to order 1:02PM.

1:00 p.m. **Introductions & agenda repair**

- Welcome Rebecca Szymkowski, DOT, Bureau of Hwy Maintenance – been at DOT about 16 years and joining us on the Council to fill Jim Hughes’ position.
- Mark Renz’s term with Council set to expire July 1st. He is interested in continuing in his role on the Council. Do we support giving Mark a reappointment?
 - Consensus: Council supports reappointing Mark Renz.
 - **ACTION:** Tara will follow up with Office of Gubernatorial Appointments.

Motion to move forward with today’s agenda moved by Feldkirchner and seconded by Bressner. Motion carried.

1:10 p.m. **Action Item: Approve February 8, 2023 Council meeting minutes**

Motion to approve minutes moved by Kuhn and seconded by Hauxwell. Motion carried.

1:20 p.m. **Education Committee Update/Invader Crusader Awards Ceremony (Christa Schaefer)**

- Tara and others have been working hard to get everything put together. Everyone should have received invite and list of winners.
- Thanks to the judges, Tara, Jason, Christa, and Mackenzie - everyone working hard on this.

- Tara: We have requested the Governor's Proclamation but have not yet received it. Also requested representation from the Secretary's Office to attend but have not heard back yet.

1:35 p.m.

ACTION ITEM | SAG and DNR Species Expert Recommendations

- NR40 Foundations (Tara Bergeson): We've been working on the SAG process for several years. We had put a pause on the process to discuss consistency in applying NR40 criteria.
 - Looked at tools others have used in deciding regulation
 - Asked species experts to go back through SAG recommendations with new insight on criteria and provide input
 - Today SAGs will be covering species that had disagreement between species experts and SAG recommendations
- Terrestrial invertebrates (Andrea Diss-Torrance)
 - More information has become available since this SAG met in 2019, resulting in the DNR SAG facilitator advising changes in the species recommendations for this group.
 - A key factor when considering the species in this SAG is whether the species is quarantined at the state or federal level. The SAG recommended not listing species on NR40 that are or will be quarantined at the state or federal level.
 - NR40 regulations establish similar regulations to what the quarantines already provide but with more effective enforcement. Overlapping regulation results in mutual interference and confusion for no benefit. Quarantines are adjusted more frequently than updates are made to NR 40 which compounds confusion and leaves businesses at risk of unexpected re-imposed regulation when quarantines are lifted.
 - Therefore, in 2019 the SAG recommended removing the following from NR40: Hemlock wooly adelgid, Asian long horned beetle, Mt. pine beetle, Spongy moth, Sudden oak death pathogen, Emerald ash borer (EAB)*, Thousand cankers disease of walnuts (TCD)*, and Walnut twig beetle (WTB)* as they were already under federal or state quarantine.
 - *A recent revision to ATCP21 has removed these species from state quarantine, but we still recommend removing them from NR40.
 - Reasoning for EAB: Is expected to be found across the state before NR40 is updated in 3 years, and NR40 regulations would reimpose quarantine-like restrictions on businesses shortly after they had been told these were lifted.
 - Reasoning for TCD: Does not appear to pose a threat to walnuts in their native range. Evidence shows its usually only trees that are already stressed that are susceptible.
 - Reasoning for WTB: Does not appear to pose a threat to walnuts in their native range.
 - The SAG had recommended the addition of two species if DATCP did not impose a state quarantine on them, Spotted lanternfly and Balsam wooly adelgid. However, information since 2019 led the DNR SAG facilitator to recommend that these species not be added to NR 40

- Spotted lanternfly has not developed into a pest of natural communities and it is not expected to reproduce well in most of the state under current conditions.
 - Balsam wooly adelgid has a limited cold tolerance, has spread very slowly where introduced in Michigan, and the primary method of introduction is via nursery stock which DATCP can exclude if infested.
- Discussion of findings:
 - Clarifying point on Spotted lanternfly DATCP quarantine – although DATCP decided not to quarantine, it could issue quarantines at a property level. If we’re able to keep a handle on small, isolated populations in this manner, then we will. This species is likely to have repeated introductions to the state and continue to move in seasonally. Impacts of this species remain to be seen, but likely to impact SE portion of state most.
- Motion to approve recommendations moved by Kuhn and seconded by Long. Motion carries.
- Herbaceous Ornamentals (Jason Granberg)
 - Giant knotweed: Dr. Tippery (UW Whitewater) is working with Matt Wallrath (Upper Sugar River Watershed Association) on doing genetic analyses on the various knotweeds in the state. Due to hybridization between species, it is likely this species is more widespread than originally thought. Currently any offspring of a prohibited species are also prohibited (including hybrids).
 - Currently: Prohibited
 - SAG Recommendation: Prohibited
 - New Recommendation: Prohibited
 - Lesser celandine: Discussions have suggested that this species is easily spread by sale and propagule sharing, making it more likely to spread on the landscape. We’ve been seeing more and more populations appear and believe it’s much more widespread than originally thought.
 - Currently: Prohibited
 - SAG Recommendation: Prohibited
 - New Recommendation: Restricted
 - Seaside goldenrod: Species spreads mostly along roadside. SAG was concerned it may spread into adjacent wetlands, but there is little evidence of this actually occurring. Currently not being sold or spread intentionally, so listing as restricted for purpose of regulating sale may not produce any real benefits.
 - Currently: Split listed
 - SAG Recommendation: Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Unregulated
 - Balfour’s touch-me-not: Species mostly found in urban or disturbed sites. No evidence of spread into natural areas or ecological damage.
 - Currently: Restricted
 - SAG Recommendation: Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Unregulated
 - Beefsteak plant: Exempt all cultivars.
 - Currently: Unregulated
 - SAG Recommendation: Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Restricted

- Purple moor grass: Exempt all cultivars.
 - Currently: Unregulated
 - SAG Recommendation: Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Restricted
- Lily of the valley: Widely bought and sold and easily propagated.
 - Currently: Unregulated
 - SAG Recommendation: Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Unregulated
- Miscanthus species: Both currently unregulated but with discussion, recommend restricted status. They are difficult to differentiate from each other. Both can affect the flow and availability of water, especially smaller streams during low flow periods. Need to look into and discuss regulating cultivated varieties further. Consistency with University of Minnesota (<https://miscanthus.cfans.umn.edu/recommendations>).
 - Chinese silver grass: Spreading along major transportation corridors. Some nurseries are growing this species and others are planting them in woodland areas.
 - Currently: Unregulated
 - SAG Recommendation: Unregulated
 - New Recommendation: Restricted
 - Silver banner grass:
 - Currently: Unregulated
 - SAG Recommendation: Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Restricted
- Discussion of findings:
 - Miscanthus:
 - Intention of making these sp. restricted is to control sale, but this will become another group for DOT to manage for.
 - This is a large group and would be difficult to regulate at cultivar level.
 - Nursery industry has been trying to regulate these sp. internally.
 - Phase-out discussion is happening with nurseries.
 - Need to include them in the public listening sessions. This will be important.
 - Not many states have Miscanthus listed, but those that do control the whole group and not specific cultivars.
 - Would be good to come back to Miscanthus in the future.
 - Council Education Committee will be handling the listening sessions again.
 - Would like to have Mark Renz weigh in on Miscanthus and the issue of cultivars.
 - Mary Bartkowiak and others have been meeting to discuss the cultivars issue. Would be helpful to have her talk about this, but general idea is to lay out which cultivars are acceptable in the rule, rather than listing all regulated cultivars. This way the rule does not need to keep up with all new cultivars.
 - There's a need for regulatory consistency across states. Some states list allowable cultivars, but most list regulated

cultivars. Many regulate at the genus/species level rather than getting down to cultivar. This does have impact on nurseries though.

- Checking cultivars at nurseries is very difficult and time-consuming process from a regulatory point of view.
- Motion to table recommendations until June 7th meeting moved by Long and seconded by Bressner. Motion carries.
- ACTION: Revisit Herbaceous Ornamental SAG recommendations at June 7th meeting.
- Agricultural (Jason Granberg)
 - No species expert opinions varied from SAG recommendations. All were consistent.
 - Discussion of findings:
 - Any of the offspring of Johnson grass (hybrid or not) are also prohibited. Not a new species being added, just including any offspring.
 - Motion to approve recommendations moved by Hauxwell and seconded by Long. Motion carries.
- No Commercial Use (Jason Granberg)
 - This SAG had the greatest number of split listed species. The two that had changes in recommendations were because their abundance on the landscape has changed.
 - Japanese hedgeparsley and Wild chervil: Going to have many scattered high-density sites. New reports occurring Michigan's Upper Peninsula and in Minnesota. It's likely there are large undocumented sites in Wisconsin for both species.
 - Currently: Prohibited/Restricted
 - SAG Recommendation: Prohibited/Restricted
 - New Recommendation: Restricted
 - No other changes in recommendations.
 - Discussion of findings:
 - Changing split listings to solely restricted makes control coordination easier to manage. If there's no clear advantage to split list, then statewide listing seems advantageous.
 - Many No Commercial Use species are introduced accidentally and hitchhike their way in. Example: developing turf out west that is brought into Wisconsin. The goal is to regulate that.
 - Changing Japanese hedgeparsley and Wild chervil to anticipate future ranges. Finding more populations than in the past and after looking at new range data, they are already in prohibited counties.
 - Restricted versus prohibited status changes how the DOT behaves. If in a restricted county, won't do anything for control but if in prohibited county, may actively manage for it.
 - Keep in mind how far off next NR40 revision is when considering split listing species – especially if we're already seeing changes in distributions.
 - Motion to approve recommendations moved by Hauxwell and seconded by Kuhn. Motion carries.
- Aquatic Invertebrates (Maureen Kalscheur)

- Faucet snail, Chinese mystery snail, New Zealand mud snail, Asian clam, and Spiny waterflea: Overall, where SAGs thought to prohibit species, species expert suggested list as restricted because they are not sold in trade and there are no control/management options for many of them.
- There were nine species where there was no disagreement: Asian tapeworm, Chinese pond snail, Gravel snail, Red-rimmed snail, Quilted snail, Channeled applesnail, Giant applesnail, Dark falsemussel, Gill lice.
- Ram's horn snail, Golden mussel, and Cladoceran: SAG recommended prohibiting but species expert suggests not regulating due to lack of information on impacts, low climate match, not sold in trade, and lack of control methods.
- SAG recommended prohibiting Santo Domingo false mussel, Scud, Mudsail, Demon shrimp and expert suggested not regulating yet because not present.
- Discussion of findings:
 - Main mechanism for how Ram's horn snails, Golden mussels, and Cladocerans are introduced is by hitchhiking. Maureen will look into this more.
- Motion to approve recommendations moved by Hauxwell and seconded by Spaul. Motion carries.

3:20 p.m.

Future Council Meetings

- For past few years we've been scheduling meetings as we go, but wanted to propose trying to get meetings scheduled for whole year in advance. Might make planning and agenda items easier as well.
 - Propose early December/January, March/April, June (for ICA), and Sept.
 - Discuss remote to in person ratio
 - ACTION: Mackenzie to send out Doodle Poll requesting availability for first two weeks of proposed months and thoughts on remote/in person ratio

3:30 p.m.

Council Member Updates

- Jennifer Hauxwell:
 - The University of Wisconsin Water Resources Institute advanced one proposal from Wisconsin to the USGS 104g AIS in the Upper Mississippi River Basin national grant competition. Decisions probably around Sept.
 - Wisconsin Sea Grant in the process of reviewing proposals submitted to our biennial state competition, plan to invest about \$1.2 million on Great Lakes research projects, with the possibility of including AIS related topics.
 - From Tim Campbell, our Wisconsin Sea Grant Aquatic Invasive Species coordinator
 - Our paper on AIS prevention behaviors and attitudes in wading/trout anglers "Applying the Extended Parallel Process Model to aquatic invasive species prevention behaviors in wading anglers" will be published soon in the *Management of Biological Invasions* website. Here is the punch line from the abstract: Our findings suggest that messaging may be more effective if it acknowledges wading anglers' experience and awareness of AIS threats while providing

straightforward self-efficacy information. Messaging should emphasize the actions wading anglers can perform that reduce AIS introduction risk.

- The interjurisdictional boater behavior grant that WISG is leading has collected data from boaters in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Pennsylvania on AIS prevention behaviors. Data analysis, led by IISG, will be completed over the summer.
 - Jennifer is a collaborator on an Oregon Sea Grant project that is evaluating the response to zebra mussels in marimo moss balls. People in the basin may be contacted by the research team to hear more about their experiences with this response event.
 - The WISG IJ Aquatic Plant Management project is progressing. We have both species and management strategy focused fact sheets that will be used to populate a website that will be created over the summer. We also have preliminary data from an analysis of search engine results for different keyword and phrase searches related to APM. In short, websites affiliated with businesses use more plain language than educational sites created by government or NGOs and the plain language searches tend to have higher search counts. Understanding this can help us create APM educational sites that people searching for this information are more likely to find.
 - I worked with a Stony Brook University researcher and a NYC Parks staff member to submit a small research proposal to the Mid-Atlantic ANS Panel about phragmites communication and message frames. We are hoping to have a large enough sample size to understand how diverse user water user groups react to different invasive species message frames. Should hear back on the status of this soon.
- Drew Feldkirchner:
 - White-nose syndrome reduced bats dramatically but little brown bat populations are slowly recovering. Trends are heading in the right direction.
 - Legislative:
 - Trying to get funding for CISMAs – Joint Finance Committee decided not to discuss in early budget discussions but it may come back up in the future
 - Provided input on Wild parsnip bill ([Senate Bill 269](#)). They were focused on the public health aspect. Seems to have bipartisan support.
 - Brian Kuhn:
 - ATCP21 has been a long journey, but the updated rule should be in effect by July 1st.
 - Started Spongy moth treatments in SW Wisconsin today. Will be doing a couple of DNR properties this year. Will be doing this spraying for at least another two weeks, then take a break and come back after 4th of July for more control. Trappers are hired.
 - One supervisor vacancy that manages Spongy moth project. Rest of hiring has been filled.
 - Greg Long:
 - Appreciate Tara's information on Water spinach and Door County craft beer invasive species project.

3:50 p.m. **Other Business**

- None

4:00 pm. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn moved by Kuhn and seconded by Hauxwell. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned 3:23PM.