

Indiana Invasive Species Council – Q2 Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 8 May 2024; 10:30 am to 1:30 pm Eastern Time

1) Roll Call (K. Werling)

- Council Members Present
 - Kelli Werling (IISC Chair), Director of Swine Health Programs, representing Indiana State Board of Animal Health, kwerling@boah.in.gov
 - Alicia Kelley, IN CAPS State Survey Coordinator, representing Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University (Secretariat), ajkelley@purdue.edu
 - Megan Abraham, Director, Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, representing Department of Natural Resources, MAbraham@dnr.in.gov
 - Phyllis Boyd, Director, representing Indianapolis Parks & Recreation, phyllis.boyd@indy.gov
 - Eric Fischer, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, representing Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife, efischer@dnr.in.gov
 - Rick Haggard, Executive Director, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association, representing industry, haggard.rick@att.net
 - Matt Kraushar, Roadside Maintenance Specialist, representing Indiana Department of Transportation, mkraushar@indot.in.gov
 - Kate Sanders, Resource Specialist, representing Indiana State Department of Agriculture, kasanders1@isda.in.gov
 - Joe Schmees, IN Freshwater Strategy Manager, The Nature Conservancy, representing land trusts, joseph.schmees@tnc.org
 - Mike Warner, President of ArborTerra Consulting, Inc., representing Indiana forest industry, mwarner@arborterra.com
- Non-Council Members Present:
 - Dawn Slack, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM), Project Coordinator / (Chair) IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, dawn@sicim.info
 - Ellen Jacquart, President of the Indiana Native Plant Society (INPS), Chair of the Monroe County – Identify and Reduce Invasive Species (MC-IRIS) initiative
 - Robert (Bob) Bruner, Exotic Forest Pest Educator, Department of Entomology, Purdue University, rfbruner@purdue.edu
 - Jen Larson, Invasive Plant Specialist, United States Forest Service
 - Marissa Striefel, Entomologist, United States Forest Service

2) Adoption of Agenda (K. Werling)

- Motion: M. Abraham
- Second: M. Kraushar
- Vote: Passed

3) Review and approval of minutes from prior meeting (K. Werling)

- M. Abraham: Motion to accept with minor editorial changes
- Second: E. Fischer
- Vote: Passed

4) Member Reports/Updates

- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology (M. Abraham)
 - Spongy moth treatments have started. First two treatments were in Berne and North Manchester. More treatments are scheduled to finish up Btk portion. Mating disruption sprays planned in collaboration with USFS.
 - Contract established for the kudzu program starts in August.

- Two contracts started for spotted lanternfly (SLF) treatments in Huntington and Switzerland counties. \$90,000 was awarded from USDA for those treatments.
- Awarded another \$300,000 from farm bill funding for SLF management in northern IN areas.
- The intention is to slow down how fast SLF is moving. There are regulatory concerns with becoming an infested state because we can't ship to the west.
- The canine unit for SLF is very successful in helping us find SLF and is a huge boost to outreach efforts.
- House Bill 1623
 - All of DNR's bills will get through National Resource Commission (NRC) by the end of the year.
 - It doesn't give us time to get anything new in, including Terrestrial Plant Rule (TPR).
 - There is a new requirement to adjust the recodification process. It used to be required every 7 years; now it is every 5 years. During the recodification process, you can't introduce a change to a rule. In an effort to streamline, legislative affairs has put everyone in DNR on a rotation. Half of DNR will recodify one year; other have will recodify next year. Entomology is up first in 2025. Until recodification is over, I can't ask for changes to TPR. They are aware that the Indiana Invasive Species Council and invasive species advocates will not be pleased by this. They have agreed to take phone calls and comments.
- We are doing a lot of outreach and we are in the best place we have been for invasive species awareness.
- National Plant Board recognizes online sales are increasing movement of plants and are working with online platforms to limit direct to consumer sales. They are working on placing restrictions on the purchase of plants online in certain states. They are not sure yet what to do with "middle man" brokers who receive plants and sell them in-state. It is challenging to determine state-of-origin of the plants.
- Discussion
 - M. Warner: In regards to the TPR, you suggested there is an opportunity to make phone calls. Can you provide name/number of who we should talk to?
 - M. Kraushar: Would your intent to be to persuade a different action, or stress our concern?
 - M. Warner: I'd like to explore information from them to see what our options are and emphasize the need to get this done. As we continue to delay, the plants are spreading and it's costing industry/landowners because we are not acting.
 - E. Jacquart: Who specifically should be contacted about this? The process is not clear and I don't want random numbers from the executive office.
 - M. Abraham: There is a legal team that is in charge of figuring out which documents put forth to the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (OMB). All documents concerning rules have to have approval from the OMB before they can be introduced to the NRC. The OMB was not excepting any proposed rule changes. The legislators are also responsible for changing how we do proposed rule changes. It has also been over a year and there is a long list of rules that the DNR will prioritize over the TPR.
 - E. Jacquart: In terms of an actual timeline, if the original TPR is recodified in 2025, the new TPR wouldn't be approached until 2026?
 - M. Abraham: Possibly. The other issue is that I have to wait for the other half of DNR to recodify their rules. I have been told that they would be willing to work on an Entomology packet in 2026 while recodification is going on.
 - D. Slack: Are there any new SLF sightings?

- M. Abraham: No. We are continuing to survey along rail lines and scrape egg masses in infestation areas.
- Action item: M. Abraham to share contact information for voicing concerns about the TPR delays.
- D. Slack: Question to Rick Haggard – What is the industry doing to limit the spread of invasive species?
- R. Haggard: Several nurseries have stopped producing plants on the advisory list. Some still are growing them but have reduced production. A lot of nurseries are getting on board with native plants. Large companies have design teams from out of state and don't pay attention to the state's invasive plant list.
- M. Abraham: There have been incidents where my team has interfered in those situations. If we catch them we can do something about it. We do follow up when people send us emails. There is a huge decline in the amount of Callery pear grown in our nurseries, but there are less nurseries in IN and more coming from out of state. The box stores don't take ownership of nursery stock. We have to work with corporate offices to make sure their contracts state which plants they can bring in. When we find them, we destroy them.
- Action item: Formulate message and list of questions for the call.
- The Nature Conservancy/Land Trusts (J. Schmees)
 - TNC is doing prescribed burns in the spring.
 - In 2023, Indiana came in 6th for total number of burns, covering over 3,000 acres in the state.
 - Invasives removal is continuing.
 - TNC is partnering with local CISMAs on Weed Wrangles.
- Purdue University College of Agriculture (A. Kelley)
 - Action item: Share Emerald Ash Borer University and Report INvasives Youtube with the Council.
 - There is a new webinar series in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy on Emerald Ash Borer. Information available on Report INvasives website.
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division Fish and Wildlife (E. Fischer)
 - Last year's grant funding is being used for starry stonewort control in Northeast Indiana (300+ acres, 28 lakes)
 - Still filling positions for new unit.
 - Invasive carp management is ongoing.
 - Getting ready for Indiana State Fair outreach.
 - Will be doing Regional Aquatic Invasive Boat Landing Blitz in June/July.
- State Board of Animal Health (K. Werling)
 - HPAI
 - HPAI continues to be reported in wild birds in 49 states except Hawaii. Indiana's last HPAI detection in wild birds was in Vanderburgh County on March 4, 2024. Indiana's last case in domestic poultry was in Allen County February 23, 2024 (small backyard flock). Indiana self-declared HPAI freedom on April 5, 2024; however, the Indiana H5N1 HPAI event will not be considered closed until Allen 04 completes its 120-day fallow period on June 22, 2024.
 - Dairy Cattle: On March 25, 2024, the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory confirmed the first detection of HPAI H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b in a Texas dairy herd. Phylogenetic analysis and epidemiology support a single introduction into this novel host followed by onward transmission. The total confirmed detections for the domestic livestock incident as of 5/3/24 includes: 36 premises in 9 states (Colorado, Kansas, Idaho, Michigan, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas). USDA announced a federal order requiring mandatory testing for interstate movement of lactating dairy cattle and test reporting that went into effect on April 29th.

| State | # of Confirmed Detections |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Colorado | 1 |
| Idaho | 2 |
| Kansas | 4 |
| Michigan | 6 |
| New Mexico | 8 |
| North Carolina | 1 |
| Ohio | 1 |
| South Dakota | 1 |
| Texas | 12 |
| Grand Total | 36 |

- Discussion:
 - Transmission pathway between poultry and dairy cattle is still undetermined, but potential hypotheses include 1) respiratory or 2) coming into contact with infected raw milk. HPAI has been shown to transfer to cats through raw milk consumption, leading to neurological symptoms and eventual death. Pasteurization deactivates the virus.
 - It is unknown if HPAI is in beef cattle. The symptoms of HPAI in dairy cattle are reduced milk quantity and quality which prompted testing. HPAI has not been recovered from meat samples.
 - USDA released federal order to require testing of lactating dairy cattle for interstate movement. It also requires labs to report positive HPAI tests in cattle.
- AMPV
 - Since mid-December, the U.S. has experienced an emerging outbreak of Avian Metapneumovirus Subtype B (AMPV-B) in poultry. This reportable disease, also known as Turkey Rhinotracheitis, has reached approximately a dozen states, affecting turkeys most severely. Other species confirmed to be affected in this outbreak include broilers/breeders and egg layers/breeders. Indiana diagnosed its first case of AMPV-B in mid-March at a Daviess County turkey operation. Clinical signs include coughing, sneezing, sinusitis, decreased egg production, and increased mortality. Secondary bacterial infections are common and often lead to the most severe clinical signs. Previous outbreaks have been caused by Subtype C, and at this time, no vaccine is available for use in the U.S. As of 4/25/24, there are 184 premises PCR positive in Indiana; 179 Subtype-B and 5 Subtype-A (all turkey except 1 layer).
- Cervids
 - On April 3, 2024, chronic wasting disease (CWD) was detected in a wild white-tailed deer in Milford Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. Because this diagnosis was in an area of the state where CWD was expected, Indiana DNR does not plan to remove large numbers of deer in a widespread cull from the area. They will continue to monitor the spread and prevalence through routine surveillance. Prevalence of CWD is thought to be close to 5% in this high deer density area of the state.
 - Indiana DNR will not allow rehabilitated fawns to move from the four-county area around the positive diagnosis to other areas of the state.
 - Producers located in the counties surrounding the positive-CWD diagnosis may be eligible for depredation permits from DNR to remove wild deer on their farms as a preventative measure to protect their farm-raised cervids from CWD exposure.
- FADIs
 - In addition to HPAI-rule out testing, BOAH conducted five foreign animal disease investigations this quarter. These cases ruled out ASF/CSF in two show pig herds, rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus-2 in a pet rabbit, and HPAI in two dairy cattle herds.
- Indiana Department of Transportation (M. Kraushar)
 - Research Projects related to Roadside Maintenance

- Research Project Summaries for the below can be found here:
<https://engineering.purdue.edu/JTRP/Research>
- SPR-4810: Feasibility of Utilizing Native Grasses and Other Vegetation In Lieu of Exotic Cool Season Grasses
- SPR-4804: Roadside Right-of-Way Maintenance Strategies
- Sentinel Landscape Meeting
 - Probably need to invite Michael to present and hopefully regularly attend
Michael Spalding
Southern Indiana Sentinel Landscape Program Coordinator
Conservation Law Center
116 South Indiana
Bloomington, IN 47408
(812) 855-1898 Office
(765) 479-2646 Cell
<https://sentinellandscapes.org/landscapes/southern-indiana/>
<https://conservationlawcenter.org/>
- Will be attending/booth at Earth Day Indiana Festival June 1st
 - <https://earthdayindiana.org/>
- Herbicide treatments on
 - Thistle/teasel/hemlock underway statewide (3750 acres)
 - Johnsongrass (4500 acres)
 - Cattails/phragmites (6000 acres)
 - Woody plants (6250 acres)
 - General broadleaf species within 30' of edge of pavement, or as ROW allows- ~32,000 acres
- Indiana Department of Agriculture (K. Sanders)
 - We have a new Deputy Director for Division of Soil Conservation: Breegan Andersen
 - Resource Specialists are participating in CISMA Weed Wrangles.
- Nursery (R. Haggard)
 - Indiana Green Expo: Feb 10-12 2025
 - SICIM/IISC has a complimentary booth.
 - There have been several retirements of landscape centered faculty at Purdue University. We are concerned they are not planning to replace Dr. Cliff Sadof's position whose work has been very important to our industry.
- Parks and Recreation (P. Boyd)
 - Indiana Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA) invasive plant survey results: Appendix II
- Forest Industry (M. Warner)
 - Participated in a meeting with forest industry and private land representatives to explore terrestrial invasive species management and state funding options. This group hopes to add this to a forestry needs list to present this to the new governor. They've recently done member surveys and asked top three issues impacting forest resources. All responses listed terrestrial invasive plant management in the top three. The groups represented have aligned their priorities and are in the process of developing a white paper with talking points and budget numbers to present to legislatures as needed.
 - We are also making plans to schedule meetings with legislatures and state agency leaders to discuss plans on how to best move forward.
 - Groups involved are from forestry industry, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), Indiana association of consulting foresters, and private owners.

- By the middle of June our plans are to meet with key legislatures such as the Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means to discuss funding opportunities/directions.
- Indiana Plant Advisory Committee and SICIM (D. Slack)
 - IPAC
 - We have been involved with State Wildlife Action Plan. They're also incorporating CISMAs and volunteer work force that can help with stewardship.
 - Continuing with plant assessments.
 - We will be presenting with David Gordon at the Association of Landscape Architects, September 13th. We continue to present to ball state to Landscape Architect students.
 - Action item – Everyone share registration information for the 2024 Invasive Species Conference.
 - We are training people to use EDDMaps and they are continuing to use it.
 - Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) is hosting a multi-state invasive species conference next February in Burlington, Kentucky.
 - III (Indiana Invasive Initiative)
 - SICIM
 - 43 CISMAs representing 50 counties.
 - Multiple Weed Wrangles completed per week.
 - More CISMAs expected to form by the end of the year
 - Action item – D. Slack to share messaging on nationwide Weed Wrangle event on October 12th.
 - Free regional trainings on invasive plants are ongoing. Sign-up is available on the SICIM website.
 - Discussion
 - DNR Fish and Wildlife is the lead on the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP).
 - SWAP is written every five years and is centered around non-game. DNR Fish and Wildlife does not get federal funding unless there is a SWAP.
 - Many endangered species listed on the SWAP are listed as a result of lack of habitat due to invasive species. This year there is a stronger push to emphasize invasive species in the plan.
 - One of the duties of the Indiana Invasive Species Council is to review strategic plans. Council members expressed interest in the IISC providing feedback on the SWAP.

5) Guest Presentation: 1:00 – 1:30 pm

- Presentation to the Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture, Bernie Engel, Purdue University College of Agriculture
 - Full Presentation: Appendix I
 - Action item – A. Kelley to share IISC presentation with council.
 - Discussion
 - B. Engel: How do you engage your federal partners?
 - M. Abraham: Each one of us in state government has a federal counterpart. We pull information from our federal counterparts to share with this community.
 - Alicia: How can we engage with Purdue faculty and staff who work on invasive species and foster interdisciplinary conversations?
 - B. Engel: We can invite you to the Academic Council which includes Department Heads and other college leadership. The Heads will know their faculty best and be able to connect the Council to researchers.
 - J. Schmees: How do you see Purdue and the College of Agriculture's role in invasive species?
 - B. Engel: Extension and applied researchers will have interests that intersect with the issues you combat in Indiana. If you see new opportunities or have emerging needs, reaching out to the

department heads can help connect you to faculty who may have an interest in looking into those issues.

6) Old Business

- Indiana Invasive Species Conference Planning Committee
 - Conference will become a Purdue Extension branded event
 - Purdue Conferences will be utilized as the event planners.
 - Council discussed logistics of planning and ideas for budget, content, and sponsorships. The location will be near the Indiana Dunes with an aquatic theme for the 2025 event. Everyone is in full support of the involvement of Purdue Extension and Purdue Conferences.
- Media Committee Update
 - New IISC website is drafted and almost ready to launch. There are still revisions being done to linked pages (Report INvasives, IPAC, Events, etc).
 - Action item – Send Alicia headshots

7) New Business

- IISC Strategic Plan
- Council discussed timeline for strategic plan and how often it should be updated. Specific feedback was provided for which agencies are responsible for inventory/mapping tools.
 - M. Kraushar: Motion to make the strategic plan timeframe 5 years.
 - E. Fischer: Second
 - Vote: Passes
- Council reviewed strategic plan and provided input on changes.
 - Action item – Council to provide input on the strategic plan for the following:
 - List of all of the mapping tools so they can be added to the strategic plan.
 - What outreach events they attend throughout the year.
 - What agency policies they review as it relates to invasives management.
 - Action item – K. Werling and M. Abraham to evaluate links that are on the website and add any external links to appropriate lists.

8) Next Meeting date:

- Date/Time: 7 August 2024; 10:30 am
- Location: Tippecanoe County Extension Office, 1950 S 18th St, Lafayette, IN 47905

9) Adjournment

- Motion: E. Fischer
- Second: K. Werling
- Vote: Passed