



## Meeting Minutes 10.16.2019

October 16, 2019 • 10:00 am to 3:00 pm • MnDOT Training and Conference Center • Shoreview, MN

### Present

- |                              |                        |                               |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Angelique Dahlberg        | 9. Laura Van Riper     | 19. Emilie Justen             |
| 2. Megan Weber               | 10. Cori Mattke        | 20. Tina Markeson             |
| 3. Angie Gupta               | 11. Dane Huinker       | 21. Kate Hagsten (via phone)  |
| 4. Missy Anderson            | 12. Kelly Pennington   | 22. Jack Greenlee (via phone) |
| 5. Rob Venette (via phone)   | 13. Monika Chandler    | 23. Sonja Smerud (via phone)  |
| 6. Jim Calkins               | 14. Doug Jensen        | 24. Essam Dabaan              |
| 7. Kate Sickmann (via phone) | 15. Andrew Dickhart    | 25. Mike Rhoades              |
| 8. Ariana Richardson         | 16. Jennifer Burington |                               |
|                              | 17. Bob Dunning        |                               |
|                              | 18. Tyler Kaspar       |                               |

### Council Business

1. Review Agenda
  - a. Agenda **approved**.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 7/17/2019
  - a. **Approved**.
3. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Income: MISAC field tour (one missing payment, now rectified). Ending balance on printed report.
  - b. Expected expenses: MISAC field tour (caterer and bus).
  - c. Treasurer's report **approved** as presented.
4. Leadership for 2020
  - a. Jennifer Burington is interested in joining the executive committee. Motion to approve Jennifer as co-chair for 2020, **approved**.
5. Upcoming Meeting Dates
  - a. Please vote for dates on open doodle poll. Next meeting, January TBD. Request made to send out meeting calendar invitations, will try to accommodate.

### Invited Speaker

1. **EmpowerU! Empowering Citizens to Engage Resource Managers and Decision Makers** (Angie Gupta, Extension Educator, Forestry – University of Minnesota Extension)  
Contact: agupta@umn.edu (507) 280-2869
  - a. Master programs participants and others requested ways to advocate for invasive species awareness and action to make more of an impact.

- b. Brought in civic engagement staff and used flipped classroom model for a multi-state audience. Had to recruit for additional partners when extra funding was allocated. 40 institutions in 30 states were interested.
- c. Course topics were in 8 online modules. Framing issues was most difficult.
- d. In-person workshops took place in 7 states.
- e. Train the trainer – learned there is excitement about something different related to invasive species and that there is potential to apply format to other topics.
- f. Version 2 reboot in 2019 – each of 7 states had to hold 2 workshops with advance work.
- g. Participants liked online and workshop content and very positive feedback was received.
- h. Used before and after assessment to evaluate success of training and confidence in skills learned. To gauge impacts used 6-12 month post workshop surveys (still in progress).
- i. Additional work: states had varied response to recruiting – use what worked to improve recruitment, improve attrition in online space, determine ideal number of participants, strengthen empowerment, consider generalizing training for other natural resource issues, and encompassing new strategies (targeted on traditional engagement methods, but could include other types like social media/online), would like to achieve demographic parity, etc.
- j. Questions:
  - i. Define decision-maker? – could be anyone (target of what you need done) depended on state and infrastructure. Were any involved? – yes there were but wasn't known in some courses, tried to continually frame as useful engagement.
  - ii. Was 70% female participation across all states? – yes and the curriculum development team and implementers were all female. Some of participants targeted were 'master' program members so perhaps the pool of recruitment was already biased.
  - iii. Is there any relation to grass roots organizing? – civic engagement & community vitality group brought in literature relating to this work and included some of the material as additional resources, especially for examples of framing issues.
  - iv. Can go back to participants who didn't complete training to find out what issue was? – yes know where the attrition occurred as there was a fee, trying to include many of them in the follow up surveys and still working on this.
  - v. There is not a specific module on invasive species and would that be helpful? – that is correct and participants came into program with lots of knowledge.
  - vi. AIS detectors were targeted for recruitment and was there a difference in participation between AIS and TIS? – have not sliced data in that way, but some of quotes are from AIS detectors, Master Naturalists were also very engaged.
  - vii. Would next version open training to anyone or keep targeting Master groups? – land owners might not do this on their own, but would open to broader groups moving forward and back off from invasive species exclusively.
  - viii. How about targeting audience and recruitment to people that are frustrated? – curriculum is going to be made available, issues can be framed explained with path to engagement but UMN cannot advocate. Can use to promote understanding and individual groups could tailor to needs.
  - ix. What is wrong with 'citizen science'? – citizen is loaded term and maybe 'community science' is better option.
  - x. For decision makers, does training address getting to correct person? – in evaluation that was a weak area as this changes depending on circumstances. Have to

choose correct governing body and this is one of modules that states each have a separate version of as they are different.

## Engagement Discussions

### 1. Jumping Worm Update (Laura Van Riper, Angela Gupta & Kelly Pennington) -

Laura – Aug/Sept reports come in, photos are shared with UMN experts, when confirmed asked if ok to put into EDDMapS (in a broad category). County level might have give the best distribution info (can be viewed on [EDDMapS jumping worm map](#)). So far Rochester and Twin Cities metro are hot spots, especially Edina. Have a better sense of distribution now and the classification summary has made its way to rule-making. Kelly – last week the classification summary produced the recommendation to take action and list jumping worm as a prohibited species. Met with commissioner’s office and waiting for feedback. To be a final rule will take 1 year or more and will have a comment period (MISAC will be given notice). Prohibited is a more stringent listing – this is the only category that would prevent sale. Laura – Rochester Master gardeners have become involved and are asking what to do, although info is lacking. Lee Frelich has been looking for funding into management techniques that once determined could be shared. Angie – Master gardeners are passionate but not very familiar with invasive species. Was invited to speak and included laws and invasive species info. UMN Extension and Laura beefed up [Extension’s jumping worm website](#) (similar messages but different layout than the DNR [jumping worm website](#)), generated Q&A and created a narration webinar (Q and A and webinar not yet posted online).

Mentioned MISAC’s involvement in advocating. Jumping worms have a connection to many activities – angling, gardening, etc. Early Bird fertilizer will stop production (partly due to trade war with China).

2. MISAC Involvement in the [National Association of Invasive Plant Councils](#) (NAIPC) (Megan Weber) – see message from Clair Ryan the coordinator for the Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) and board officer for the NAIPC. Does MISAC want to be represented, 2-4 calls per year and email list? Discussion – Laura supports MISAC joining, she filled in for Clair for a period of time so has some experience with the group. Looking for energy and engagement, are involved in National Invasive Species Awareness week. Group is not appointed by the federal government like the National Invasive Species Advisory Committee (see next topic). The NAIPC is its own independent organization that brings together invasive plant councils from around the county to address national issues. Includes any plants, aquatic or terrestrial. How does this group relate to other groups, regional and stakeholders? Advocating at national level – no direct engagement with decision-makers but possibly letters written. MIPN has played a role with woody invasives and working with arboreta, perhaps NAIPC can support that type of work as well. Motion for MISAC to participate in the [National Association of Invasive Plant Councils](#) with the MISAC Chair as the lead contact and Laura Van Riper as alternate. **Approved.**

3. Disbandment of the Invasive Species Advisory Committee to the [National Invasive Species Council](#) (Megan Weber) – see [emailed attachments](#) and refer to Bonnie’s email. Can no longer rely on this group, what is appropriate response for MISAC? NISC was formed by Executive Order 13112 and is made up of federal agencies. The [Invasive Species Advisory Committee](#) allows other groups to advise NISC. Can contact Chuck Barger (current chair) to see what his recommendation would be –will invite to next meeting. Could try working through agencies and have a recommendation ready based on Chuck’s response. Budget was also cut, may have been a factor in disbandment. Staff will be leaving, although still has an acting director (Stas Burgiel). Many federal science advisory committees are experiencing cuts in current administration. Any reaction from other organizations? Can ask other UMISC partners what they are doing and invite to join NAIPC? Can also reach out to other ISAC members and other state invasive species councils.

4. Other areas of engagement? (open discussion)

i. Angie drafted a letter to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, can check back with Allison. Another connection with jumping worm through MPCA’s regulation. MPCA is pushing for consumer separated compost and use on site – could be a vector.

ii. Dave H. sent comments about Invasive Phragmites via email: Currently: the updates to the risk assessment were completed to change nonnative Phragmites from the Restricted List to Prohibited: Control. That status change was presented to NWAC in September – the risk assessment has been presented to the larger group and provided for them to peruse. The full committee now has the responsibility of reviewing the assessment and forming an opinion. Future: The full NWAC committee will vote on the change of status in December. Once that vote is completed the outcomes will be presented to the Commissioner of Agriculture - at that point there is a period for public comment and if there are no formal complaints to sway the commissioners decision – the NWAC voting outcome for nonnative Phragmites will be accepted as a final decision. – Laura added that before December voting meeting, additional concerns may be presented. Regulation would be modeled after purple loosestrife.

MISAC Project Updates

1. Goal review (Megan Weber) – bullets on the back of agenda replaced with check marks, remaining ones are:
  - i. implement MISAC brand – need to go back to Emily about brand standards, this is being worked on and she has ideas, logo will be in calendar, Dane has been working on standards, can we put it on website, but need to check on registration of logo, on target to finish by 2019.
  - ii. Advocacy goal is being met and can keep working next year.
2. Species Rating Review update (Laura Van Riper) – updating MISAC species list, examples of the taxa teams ratings (see spreadsheets). Spreadsheets are raw data now, which will eventually be combined into different format.

Taxa	Status 10-1-19
Terrestrial Plants	1 <sup>st</sup> reviews completed. Starting 2 <sup>nd</sup> review.
Terrestrial Animals	Working on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reviews.
Terrestrial Insects	COMPLETE
Terrestrial Pathogens	Working on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reviews.
Aquatic Plants	COMPLETE.
Aquatic Animals	Final thoughts due Oct. 4, then will be complete.
Aquatic Microbes	Had kick off meeting on Sept. 30.

Terrestrial plants group has largest list and is on second review. Aquatic pathogens is now microbes rather than pathogens. What about chronic wasting disease as an invasive species? Not sure of native status, hasn’t come up in taxa groups. Not clear where it belongs, but is getting lots of attention. Ratings relation to 2009 Plan, there is appendix of invasive species, didn’t include pathogens so this effort is an update but could also be stand-alone document. Created to show extent of species of concern. Other groups are interested in ratings (Great Lakes panel) – could have regional influence.

3. Website committee update (Missy Anderson) – Thanks to Emily for re-design and Dane for making changes. Comments: risk assessments are kind of buried, could have sub-headings under topics, move search function to top, could have buttons along top. Offer stands if there is interest to join website committee or contact MISAC with any additional comments.
4. Field Trip Update (Monika Chandler) –MISAC held its 2019 field tour on September 5<sup>th</sup>. The tour started and ended at Itasca State Park. Thank you to the DNR for the use of the historic Forestry Inn.
  - Topics covered included Eurasian watermilfoil biocontrol, Siberian peashrub, purple loosestrife biocontrol, spotted knapweed biocontrol, larch casebearer, brown knapweed, buckthorn identification with demonstration of buckthorn baggies, honeysuckle identification and faucet snails. We also saw samples of starry stonewort and mystery snails.
  - Speakers did a nice job with their presentations. They were Kate Hagsten, Rich Rezanka, Monika Chandler, Megan O’Neil, Mari Hardel, Dave Hanson and Nick Macklem.
  - There were 30 participants including 3 CCM field specialists.
  - We made a very small profit of \$17.06.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Bus rental	\$870.00
Lunch	\$327.94
Total Costs	\$1,197.94
Eventbrite Net Sales	\$1,063.85
Eventbrite Fees	\$106.15
Eventbrite Income	\$1,170.00
Single Check	\$45.00
Our Income	\$1,215.00
Profit	\$17.06

- Evaluations have not been done yet. Is it too late to send evaluation forms?
- Due to potential speakers’ busy schedules, it was hard to recruit speakers.
- More advance communication about the event would have been helpful. Some people said they learned about the tour two days in advance.

Kudos to Monika and committee: Bob, Kate, and Mari! Eventbrite worked as long as we can tolerate fees and we have a MISAC account (can pass to Jennifer). Eventbrite also provides some free advertising. Can always use check as back up payment method.

### Discussion Topics

1. MISAC Finances (Dane Huinker and Megan Weber) – fiscal reports go back to 2015, income mostly coming from UMISC. Currently spending \$5,000 per year so we need \$10,000 over a two year period. Only took in \$7500 last UMISC. Why were proceeds from UMISC less for 2018, even though participation was greater? Costs at Rochester were higher, more attendees costs more and had another partner to split proceeds. Registration with affiliation was a factor in the split. Can allocate lower amount for website (has been \$2500 for 40 hrs) and add more if needed. Would not like to use membership models and don’t have government appointed members (requires reporting to governor’s office), some organizations can get grants,

MISAC has not. What can we predict for 2020 – similar to 2016 proceeds as Duluth is cheaper. There is a need to have some funds to cover small expenses in addition to expected expenses: \$4,000 seed money for UMISC, \$5,000 for financial administration and website maintenance. For UMISC, IPAW does financial admin and MIPN hosts web, so the difference in proceeds split is being managed as a match for those in-kind donated services. Future split will be 3 way between IPAW, MIPN and MISAC with discount for members being applied as it has in the past. **Motion to approve Wildlife Forever’s contract with \$2,000 as the amended amount for web work, and with potential for additional allocation if there is need and/or capacity. Approved.** WF will discuss and send amended contract.

2. Wildlife Forever Contracts (Dane Huinker and Megan Weber) – see above

3. UMISC Update & Planning (Doug Jensen and Megan Weber) – see 2 documents for changes to MOU there is a partnership MOU, and an MOU for MIPN to take on conference administration. Suggested edits were included, language was cleaned up and some items were moved from one MOU to another. Executive Committee to have at least 2 members from each group. Conference administrator capacity issue was addressed by adding all of duties to MOU in the event sub-contracting would be needed. For example, a graphic designer is needed, and quotes are being accepted. Everything is set for Clair to take over and begin administration. **Motion to approve Megan and Missy as MISAC representatives on the UMISC executive committee. Approved.** Other updates on track, meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup>, develop prospectus for sponsors, and recruit committee leaders. Committee leadership needed: sponsor and exhibitor committee, field trip committee (6-8 field trips), program committee (one terrestrial, one aquatic; large commitment, but very important), workshops/symposia, poster committee, volunteer committee, media committee). Will also be discussing themes and plenary speakers, planning timeline and budget. Budget for speakers – federal agencies decline, can offer rooms, some sponsors have offered to fund travel and this has been a small part of budget. Carol Mortensen awards committee needs to re-form in January meeting and should move schedule up a month. Sponsor prospectus will be out before the end of year. Content review is needed from MISAC. Call for abstracts could be as early as March. Speakers and poster presenters are typically notified in May. The mailing list will be used to recruit as well as individual emails, or interested volunteers can contact the executive committee. MITPCC will strongly encourage attendance. Note that I35 ‘can of worms’ construction project in Duluth area could impact travel to conference and field trips.

4. Statewide plan updates (Kelly Pennington) – [ANS Task Force](#) approves state plans. [MN’s state plan](#) is ten years old (took 3 years to write). The current effort to review ratings and new staff have MNDNR thinking about plan revision. For the DNR Invasive Species program, having an approved management plan opens the door to federal funds. Review of plan has identified revisions needed as: some minor updates, updated ratings (already in progress), and addressing accessibility issues. USFWS guidance for revision is in 3 categories- minor, major, or complete overhaul. Based on the needed revisions identified, MN plan update would be in ‘major’ category. This will take more than one year to accomplish. Since it is a comprehensive plan (includes both AIS and TIS), approval could be more difficult. Governor’s involvement is not needed. There is no timeline on updating of plans required by USFWS. MNDNR would take the lead on beginning the revisions and bring back to MISAC for review and approval. The update presents an additional opportunity for collaboration. Some counties and other organizations may wish to update plans based on how the state plan update proceeds. The implementation plan was never completed, and Doug mentioned there is some information available from past input. Connected documents could potentially be housed by MISAC rather than included in the federal review process. Lack of implementation plan has come up at county level. Outreach and behavior change not specifically listed but may be nested within the elements (or added as a social science needs section). 2009 plan is broad and that makes prioritization and implementation more

flexible. Can provide a framework for any organization to create their own implementation plan. MISAC member organizations are encouraged to review plan. A committee will be formed and follow-up email to come. Timeline is to complete this update within a year.

5. NWAC Research Needs Document (Emilie Justen) – [Noxious Weed Advisory Committee](#) has produced a document and it is in the final stages of approval by the board. MDA would like to use this document to reach public/potentially interested parties. MISAC could host document on website. Although it is advisory to the MDA, could be used for grants to steer research, and provide context of where research needs overlap. MISAC could have a webpage for ‘research needs’ or ‘knowledge gaps’ under Invasive Species and also refer to MAISRC and MITPPC. **Motion for MISAC to create a research needs webpage that hosts MDA’s NWAC and other research groups concerns and lists. Approved.**

### Timed Updates from members

1. Bob Dunning- CAI is planning conference in Grand Rapids next year and encouraging collection of data of weed control efforts to be submitted to MDA. Favorite thing “Aquatic invasive species success story” from Grand Lake.
2. Drew Dickhart- works with AIS in Carver County, 5 years along. Completed inspections in 7 lakes, monitoring with interns and education and outreach programs (exhibits to fairs, festivals). Goldfish infestation generated lots of attention and has prompted an action plan that includes introduction of predator fish and involves partners. Encouraged to work with Doug Jensen who has and is dealing with goldfish infestations.
3. Tina Markeson – working on a weed specification for construction that requires invasive species control to be part of standards specification. Hiring a position for roadside vegetation specialist this winter, will be a transportation program specialist, please spread the word.
4. Cori Mattke– hiring for outreach specialist, complimentary to current communication staff – will package research outcomes and build partnerships for implementation on the ground. Finalizing research priorities for submission in January.
5. Tyler Kaspar– AIS field work wrapping up including surveillance for aquatic vegetation and invertebrates. Chinese mystery snail has been found in more lakes, especially in southern counties and people are asking about them. Into fall, will continue terrestrial invasives work and surveillance. MOU in Ceded territories to work on state lands is in progress.
6. Jim Calkins– MNLA doesn’t have any updates.
7. Emilie Justen– MDA noxious weed grant is open for municipalities open until Nov 26<sup>th</sup>. Read RFP carefully. Strategic plan outcome metrics will be used to get additional longer term funding for grant program and staff for early detection. NWAC will be voting on adding to noxious weed list, 2 have already been approved (Japanese honeysuckle, Norway maple). 2-5 invasives will move categories. Look forward to 3 years of changes in 2020.
8. Kelly Pennington– co-hosted public open space meetings with DNR Statewide AIS Advisory Committee on angling, AIS and access with format as 4-5 hour meetings. All participants left with notes from meetings. Community-based social marketing with Ken Donnelly looked at barriers and benefits in AIS prevention in angling and trade pathways. Next step is to brainstorm implementation of findings.

9. Doug Jensen – Since April, MN Sea Grant and partners including 1854 Treaty Authority, Fond du Lac, and MNDNR Law Enforcement and Water Craft Inspection Program educated 13,485 adults and youth at 46 events while distributing 17,131 education materials. Without our partners and support from Sea Grant’s interns (six), we would not have been able to have this reach. Post event evaluations from 10 events not only showed that awareness increased to 99% (an increase of 23%), behavior actions increased to 93% (an increase of 31%). In local news, August Bent Paddle Tales and Ales Crawfish Boil was a great success, 225 lbs of crayfish and 225 people (# coincidence) were educated about invasive crayfish regulations and use. MN Sea Grant co-hosted with Animal Allies Humane Society and World of Fish, a *Habitattitude Surrender* event. Five fish were rehomed and 70 visitors educated including 20 Youth Allies. Over the past three years, *Habitattitude Collaboratives* rehomed over 580 animals! Doug is facilitating response to a Twin Ponds goldfish infestation, Duluth. He initially met with City of Duluth and UMD Facilities Management (who dealt with ‘04 UMD’s Rock Pond goldfish infestation) and is working to secure a MNDNR permit for Tom Hrabik, UMD, who will head up a field study. At the state level, he worked with Chelsey Blanke, MNDNR, on the pathways project, and Laura Van Riper, MNDNR, to update MISAC aquatic animal and plants risk assessments. In regional news, he’s helping to plan the next Great Lakes Panel on ANS meeting in October that will have a heavy Organisms in Trade theme. In national news, a new *Habitattitude* web site ([www.habitattitude.net](http://www.habitattitude.net)) was soft-launched and will be populated with model products. Similarly, work has been initiated to populate the *Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!* Campaign website ([www.stopaquaticitchhikers.org](http://www.stopaquaticitchhikers.org)) with graphics that can be adapted/adopted by partners.

10. Laura Van Riper– Noxious Weed Advisory Committee full committee meeting in November to determine the species that will have risk assessments done over the next two years so please contact the committee to nominate any species that haven’t yet been reviewed that you are concerned about. The [Wicked Plants](#) exhibit at Bell Museum is cool and mentions invasive plants (goes until Jan. 5th).
11. Essam Dabaan– PPQ has been conducting surveys in metro area for exotic bark beetles and monitored Khapra beetle traps in commercial sites, Conducted gypsy moth survey in SW MN. Have worked with tribes and federal partners to conduct EAB and GM surveys. In process of hiring a technician. Administering projects for farm bill new name PPA 7721. Considering lifting domestic quarantine for pine shoot beetle, comments are open now through Nov 22.
12. Angie Gupta – Logger education program participants were engaged and workshops all used electronics. Invasive species community of practice at UMN Extension includes partnerships working with IS, several are brew pubs. Continuing work on how to interpret genetic biocontrol. Soy growers will fund landowner training; recruiting participants in November.
13. Jennifer Burington– summer GM traps yielded 531 moths and completed 3 treatments (with Btk) – additional locations scheduled. Palmer amaranth handout available and there is an updated map available online. Seed risk assessment will be updated, Plant pest insider can be sent to group.
14. Mike Rhoades– St. Croix National Scenic Riverway has been surveying for zebra mussel and carp, no samples north of high bridge were positive. Asian carp is known from confluence. Buckthorn removal down to maintenance phase in project area; moving to next project area Ferry Falls north of Stillwater. National Public Lands Day was effective using ‘green climber’. Ferry falls Oriental bittersweet under control, but found new large sites. New biotech position will be hired next spring with AIS focus.



15. Angeliqe Dahlberg – working on MAISRC project on zebra mussel suppression. Partnered with USGS on Lake Minnetonka using low dose pesticide that targets veliger stage. Monitored non-target impacts: fish were stressed although maybe was due to high temps, native mussels had high survival rates, adult zebra mussels also survived.
16. Rob Venette– MITPPC use of drones symposium available on you tube. Thanks to Monika for serving on expert panel. MITPPC is nearing final selection of research projects and hopes to fund 13 projects.
17. Kate Hagsten – greatly enjoyed working with extension at Leech Lake to do the EWM Civic Governance Bio Control project. Wrapping up efforts to remove monocultures of high priority species on Leech Lake reservation. Thank you to everyone for all you do.
18. Jack Greenlee– USFS completed invasive species treatments, no new invaders this year. Partner with 2 CWMA's including the invasive species technician in Cook County. Will be hiring a full time ecologist.
19. Megan Weber – Starry trek is favorite story, 28 or 29 local training sites searched 270 locations and didn't find any starry stonewort but did find Eurasian water milfoil. Will continue next year, mark calendars for Aug 15 2020. A new online course AIS Management is for consumers to learn about management practices from an independent source. Great course for broader audience beyond pesticide applicators and professionals.
20. Sonja Smerud- no new infestations in 80 public accesses, participates in outreach already mentioned. Working on lake assessments, plankton ID, and WMA grant for buckthorn and Japanese barberry treatment.