

Approved 12-11.18

**Quarterly Meeting of the
Governor's Invasive Species Council of Pennsylvania**

Thursday, September 27th, 2018

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Conference Room 309
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Meeting Summary

Drafted by Trilby Libhart, PA Dept. of Agriculture

Voting Agencies Represented:

Fred Strathmeyer, Jr., PA Dept. of Agriculture, Designated Council Chair

Andrew Rohrbaugh, PA Dept. Conservation and Natural Resources

Gary Walters, PA Dept. Environmental Protection

Jim Grazio, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection

Robert Morgan, PA Fish & Boat Commission

Sarah Whitney, PA Sea Grant

Sara Stahlman, PA Sea Grant (Phone)

Jessica Darr, Penn Ag Industries Association

Beth Brantley, Penn State University

Lisa Murphy, University of Pennsylvania

Keith Fisher, The Nature Conservancy

Charles Bier, Western PA Conservancy

Jeff Wagner, Western PA Conservancy

Brian Pilarcik, PA Lake Management Society (Phone)

Gloria Day, PA Landscape & Nursery Association

Gregg Robertson, PA Landscape & Nursery Association

Piper Sherburne, Conservation Districts

Terry Styer, PA State Association of Township Supervisors

Voting Agencies Absent:

PA Parks & Forest Foundation

PA Dept. of Health

PA Farm Bureau

PA Dept. of Transportation

PA Game Commission

County Governments

Approved 12-11.18

Other Attendees:

Amy Jewitt, Western PA Conservancy
Kendra McMillin
Dustin Shull
Felicia Lamphere
Julie Carraghan
Ian Gardner
Ruth Welliver, PA Dept. of Agriculture
Sara Grove, Shippensburg University
Matthew Helmus, Temple University
Jocelyn Behm, Temple University
Kevin Hess, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
Nick Decker, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
Johan Berger, State Conservation Commission
Trilby Libhart, Pa Department of Agriculture
Dave Scott, PA Dept. of Agriculture, Interim Council Coordinator

Call to Order/Welcome

Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer, Jr., Designated Council Chair, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Deputy Secretary Strathmeyer (PDA) opened the meeting by welcoming members and thanking them for making the trip to attend the meeting. He also welcomed and introduced two new members to the council: Jessica Darr, representative from PennAg Industries, and Beth Brantley, representative from PSU Mont Alto. Council members and others present then introduced themselves.

Council Business:

Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer, Jr., PA Dept. of Agriculture, Designated Council Chair
Eighteen (18) voting members or their alternates were present for the meeting. Voting members from the PA Game Commission, PA Parks and Forest Foundation, PA Dept. of Health, PA Farm Bureau, PA Dept. of Transportation and County Governments or their designated alternates were absent from the official quorum count. Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer, Jr. (PDA) asked for any additions or updates to the agenda and called for any additions or changes to the June 2018 meeting minutes. Deputy Strathmeyer then called for a motion to approve the minutes:

Changes to June Minutes:

DCNR State Forester name misspelled. Correct spelling is Ellen Shultzabarger. DCNR Kelly Sitch is with Forestry, not parks. Add proposed noxious plant list that was worked on by a subcommittee at the June meeting for referral to the Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Committee be added to the minutes.

Motion to Approve the June 2018 Meeting Minutes as amended by: Piper Sherburne
(Conservation Districts)

Motion Seconded by: Gary Walters (DEP)

Comments/Discussion: No additional changes

Vote to Approve the Motion: Motion passed

Updates on Action Items:

- **Status of Search for GISC of PA Coordinator Position:**
Deputy Strathmeyer informed the council that the paperwork for the position is in the budget office and then will move to Human Resources. Thanked the Fish & Boat for getting on board. Contributions for the position were made from the state agencies and commissions. It is possible that the job will be posted by the next meeting.

Updates:

Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Committee (CPNW) Meeting:

Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer Jr., PA Dept. Of Agriculture

Deputy Secretary Strathmeyer noted that there is an internal prep meeting prior to the CPNWC meeting on September 9 with the CPNWC meeting being held October 25, PDA building, Rm 309 from 1-3 pm.

Spotted Lanternfly Update:

Dana Rhodes, PA Dept. of Agriculture

Spotted Lanternfly Update

Dana Rhodes (PDA) explained that there is plenty happening with spotted lanternfly(SLF). The quarantine is still the 13 counties that were listed in 2017. Swarming activity has begun and will last for approximately 2-3 weeks. The SLF are very active, especially on sunny days, and are climbing up buildings, poles to get some height in their flight. The state survey team has been following up on location reports.

Commonwealth agencies along with private companies and the public are getting trained and permitted to deal with the SLF both in and outside the quarantine zone. PLNA has been very active in getting information out about SLF in their newsletter. SLF has been found in several states. Three states; PA, Virginia which has a population within a 2-mile diameter, and New Jersey, which is treating a very small population, seeing 20-30 at a time. Delaware investigated 1 or 2 small populations that they have controlled, and New York is actively surveying. New York has also implemented a quarantine and is recognizing PA's permit system. Roadside inspections are happening around the states and the states can issue a notice of rejection if the company is not properly permitted. After three rejections "you are out." New Jersey also has an internal quarantine in place and is recognizing the permit system.

There was recently a national meeting that included New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and Ohio. All agreed to a regional approach with one permitting system when dealing with the Spotted lanternfly. Vehicle hang tags are issued for identification to the permit holders and decals will be available for those vehicles without mirrors.

Reporting of SLF should now be done through the PSU extension website. This site is used by both the PDA and the USDA- extension. <https://extension.psu.edu/have-you-seen-a-spotted-lanternfly> . They are recommending reporting even if the SLF are in a quarantine county. Dauphin Co. is not currently in the quarantine. A survey followed up the report of adults in Harrisburg, but no egg masses were found.

Approved 12-11.18

Temple Mapping and Spotted Lanternfly Impact Prediction

Matt Helmus, Temple University

Temple, has created SLF population dynamic models. This will allow us to map/predict the risk of spread to new locations. They use lists of business types that may spread SLF such as landscapers and warehouses. This project is geared toward helping the PDA focus surveys by using different layers of information combined to identify high probability locations. It will also show if we are seeing those locations as hubs for the insect with genetic testing. The information will be given to the PDA. Matt will send out link to the group. <https://iecolab.org/lanternfly-webapp/maps/locationMapCluster.html>

Question was asked if they are looking where the general public is involved; festivals, farmers markets, etc.? Orchards?—Yes, the tool has many layers of data which is added following verification.

Deputy Secretary Strathmeyer noted that this is a great tool for SLF and future invasive species.

Presentation: The Great Lakes Least Wanted Aquatic Invasive Species

Jim Grazio, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection

Presentation attached.

Motion to recommend to the CPNWC that they review and consider adding the six aquatic invasive species listed in the presentation to the Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed law list of noxious weeds:

Motion to recommend: Sarah Whitney

Motion Seconded by: Bob Morgan

Hydrilla at Pymatuning

Brian Pilarcik, Crawford County Conservation District

Treatment for 2018 consisted of 800 acres toward center portion of reservoir. This was targeted to stem the population that was moving northward. Hydrilla has now been found north of the causeway in multiple locations. Additional survey will need to be done to determine the severity of the infestation at those locations. There will be a wrap-up meeting in the fall to reassess the treatments of the past two years. Approximately two thirds of the hydrilla population has been treated so far. They are now looking at grant possibilities and sources of funding to continue treatments. There are several different players involved in two different states (OH & PA). They are hoping that the hydrilla has been damaged enough that it will not produce tubers or turions.

It has also been the 3rd year for the boat inspections which has been a very successful program. It is important to talk about the successes we have had in fighting hydrilla.

Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Meeting

Deputy Secretary Fred Strathmeyer Jr., PA Dept. of Agriculture

There will be a meeting about invasives with the Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, next Tuesday, October 4th, in the East Wing of the Capitol, Room 8EB. It would be good to see members there in the room. Dr. Doug Tallamy from the University of Delaware will be speaking along with several others from agencies and organizations. We need to figure ways to have more conversations about native and invasive species with the legislators. A stenographer will be there to record minutes for those that cannot attend.

2019 Farm Show Booth

Dave Scott, Interim PISC Coordinator, PA Dept. of Agriculture

The 2019 Farm Show is quickly approaching, and we need volunteers to help with the PISC booth. We have this as a roundtable today to come up with ideas for what we want to display at the booth. The

Approved 12-11.18

Farm Show runs from January 4th through the 12th, 2019. We will pass around signup sheets for volunteering at the booth at the December meeting. Thanks for any help.

First Finds:

New Zealand Mud Snail

Bob Morgan

The New Zealand Mud Snail was found in Little Lehigh Creek. It is a minute little gastropod, less than ¼ inch. Populations can reach to about 500,000 per meter squared. They destroy the base of the food web. They have already been found in Spring Creek in Centre Co. and in Musconetong River, NJ which is a tributary of the Delaware River. They are now in the mouth of the Delaware River.

The snails reproduce parthenogenically and there are three known clones in the U.S. 2013 densities showed anywhere from 100-1000 snails per square meter. They are known to reproduce up to six times per year. They love trout streams and cold, moving water.

Yellow Floating Heart

Brian Pilarcik

Yellow floating heart was found in a private landowner's pond. Bought it as an ornamental to release in his pond and was wondering how he could buy the plant if it is an invasive. The landowner is taking the steps needed to remove it from his property.

*Note that the council needs to follow up on finds not just report them.

Agency Updates:

John Arway, Executive Director of the PA Fish & Boat Commission will be retiring at the end of the year. Implications for PISC could be important with a new Director.

Bob Morgan, Lead AIS Ecologist for the PA Fish & Boat Commission and long-time and dedicated PISC member will be retiring Friday, September 28th. Will be working with PA Sea Grant. He will be watching from afar!

RoundTable Working Groups:

2019 Farm Show: Dave Scott (PA Dept. of Agriculture) explained that the Farm Show booth will again be focusing on the Spotted Lanternfly and using the story map that was made and used last year. Will be looking at adding a piece on hydrilla. Beth Brantley said that PSU students can help volunteer to man the booth.

Legislative Group: Sarah Whitney (PA Sea Grant) noted that the group discussed ways on continuing the efforts that we have made with hydrilla. Involves working with local constituents. Dr. Sara Grove, Shippensburg University, is working on a white paper. Hydrilla focus, can bringing attention to invasive species issues, with a goal to increased funding for response and control efforts.

Web Group: Gary Walters (Dept of Environmental Protection) noted that the they are looking at the ease involved in using the new website. There is not a link, so it is not easy to find. Also need language that is easier to understand. Would like to have it revised before the first meeting in 2019. Gary's staff will help to get that accomplished. Deputy Secretary Strathmeyer also let the group know that Kyle will

Approved 12-11.18

be able to help get things done. Don't wait for Emily to come back. Dave Scott will work on getting a link established.

Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Committee: Charles Bier (Western PA Conservancy) explained that the aquatic plants discussed in the meeting today need to be added onto the recommended list for the committee and added to meeting notes.

Brazilian elodea- *Egeria densa*

Water Soldier- *Stratiotes aloides*

European water chestnut- *Trapa natans*

Parrot feather- *Myriophyllum aquaticum*

Yellow floating heart- *Nymphoides peltata*

European frogbit- *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*

Discussed need for guidance from PDA on how to phase plants out of PA that may end up on list. Watch lists of groups of vascular plants that are problems in other states.

Additional Comments:

Next meeting is December 11, 2018.

Motion to Adjourn: Gregg Robertson, PLNA

Motion Seconded: Gary Walters, DEP