

Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council

Meeting Notes

Date: Friday, April 12, 2019 **Time:** 10:00AM-12:00 PM

Location: Hardin Hall Room 901, 3310 Holdrege St. Lincoln, NE 68583, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

I. **Featured Presentation: Cat Wars: The Devastating Consequences of a Cuddly Killer, By: Dr. Pete Marra, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center Head**

II. **Coordinator Updates (Allison Zach)**

- Callery Pear crime in Lincoln
- How get ag representatives on council-
 - Having council meeting in different locations in Nebraska & ideas for format
 - Certain agency rep?
- Python find
- **Could hold an Annual conference or webinar-open forum for people to come and hear talks about various invasive species topic**

III. **Council Member Updates**

- Rick-Aquatic invasive species coordinator position is still downtown after 3 years. Rivers and stream program manager and 2 other employees-in depth survey of invasive carp species along the river systems. In order to have a comprehensive inventory to determine where we have them. **Mosquito fish-speaker**-Keith Koupal in Kearney. MO River position has been filled and Dave Tunink's job will be interviewed next week.
- Tim USDA APHIS- flooding 3-4 weeks ago and Spencer dam took out everything from the Niobrara to the MO river. FEMA-EF11-established to work with animals that were killed and displaced. 66 counties were declared disaster by FEMA-wildlife services asked them to do surveillance-6 planes out and flew all 66 counties at low level to mark stranded and dead animals. Vet services and state agencies will now go out to collect carcasses. Brownsville had considerable flooding. Dept of Ag and NGPC and APHIS- takes less than 30 days to become feral-there are funds available. Farm bill came out and there is a portion on \$77 million for feral swine in it and split between wildlife services-\$30 million for APHIS do feral hog control. James Theile-bigger push-with African swine fever-will be laws and legal changes to prevent that and would infect domestic.
- Brent-weed association had training last week for weed free forage. Discussion for hay being brought into the state and could bring in new invasive plant species. Weed control association-will certify plants before they are hayed to certify them. Weed free gravel is inspected and certified in Lancaster county for use. Locally have found 50 new infestations in Lancaster-2018-680 infestation-70 acres in 2008. They are seeing more landowners controlling it and require a plan if it is found on their property. Start seeing garlic mustard soon in understory of treed areas. Seeing a lot of it and may need more information. Van Dorn Park and parks department in Lincoln. **New brochures are available on sulfur cinquefoil and Houndstongue. Need to tell people why these species are bad.** Vegetation task force met in Scottsbluff in conjunction with weed control association-through the FFAs so students can do surveys on the river systems-3 \$500 scholarships-do surveys for invasive species and endangered species-Kristal Nable-will send it out to the FFAs-statewide. Task force meeting-was going to be northern Nebraska-but maybe on wait to line that up due to flooding. Funding for task forces-now at

appropriations and the invasive plant control funding could be cut \$456,000 was left in it when it went to the appropriations committee.

- Mitch- finishing up seed sampling and going into noxious weed sampling
- TJ-post flooding-phragmites rafts into Legacy coordinator is Melissa Panella. Now back hiring her position.
- Jeremy-transbasin objections were due Jan 31-hearing officer went through those-listed all the documents on March 8th and people have until the end of April. Still Measured high water marks.
- Tom-summer sampling upcoming-biological sampling of streams-insects, basins Loup and Middle platte and national rivers and stream. Researcher time and place to leave phragmites alone-shoreline and estuary could provide structure.
- Kelsey-Cunningham-hopeful, Cunningham filled up in 2 days, drawing it down 25 cfs drawing it down to do fish renovation for carp. Along river there is filling levees going on digging holes to fill them. Then will need to refill those areas. Early June =should take
- Justin-Nebraska forest service-EAB sampling is coming and have found live larvae. All riparian corridors are weed pathways. Vertigre creek-weedy plans and what is the weed pressure coming in
- Chris- Ask Shane and Julie about garlic mustard bio control status. What could flooding-public awareness –list of things to get it out the media-a few months from now put it out the media
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IV. The Next Meeting is May 10, 2019

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