

Nebraska Invasive Species Advisory Council

Meeting Notes

Date: Friday, September 13, 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 Topic:** White Nose Syndrome in Bats Update and overview of research and outreach efforts that are underway. **Presenter:** Baxter Seguin, Coordinator of Bat Monitoring in the School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- II. Carmen Thomson-The Parks Service has been conducting acoustic sampling for bats. Acoustic sampling started in 2015 and was conducted in Niobrara and in Agate in Scottsbluff. They have a staff member named Dan that has 6-20 spots he monitors and does road surveys on NABat. Mist netting was conducted for white nose syndrome (WNS) and WNS was found at badlands, Fort Laramie, jewel cave and wind cave. These caves now have smaller cave tours to protect the bats. Decontamination of shoes is required. ND, SD, WY, and Nebraska Parks Service do sampling for WNS.

The Nebraska Parks Service is conducting Canada thistle control. The yellow flag iris project has been quiet this summer. All the flooding damage on the Niobrara and Missouri rivers all county roads are closed in Brown County.

- III. Julie Van Meter: Emerald ash borer (EAB)-USDA has stalled on delisting EAB, not sure why. They are trying to give states time for states to get regulations in place before it is federally delisted. A new EAB find was in Saunders County on private property. Nebraska Dept of Ag is watching I-80 closely and looking at north and south of Omaha for EAB. USDA has been working on biological control releases at several state parks working with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Trees can be injected with a chemical to kill EAB but the ash tree must be taking up water to treat the tree-so it is best to treat it in the spring. You can treat a tree that has 10-15% crown die off and be successful in saving the tree from EAB. Julie will be talking with Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Forest Service on a research project working with Dept of Ag in IL and USDA Forest Service. The project is testing electro beam technologies as a regulatory treatment for Ash logs. The research project asks for 6 feet by 12-inch ash logs that are infested with EAB to be sent to them. This will be done next summer.

Trapped at least 4-5 velvet long horned beetles, worked with USDA to get traps this year used an experimental lure and trap them out in McConaughy, and Douglas and Saunders counties. These beetles are likely everywhere because many states do not trap them. There is a native borer that looks similar. The beetle has been confirmed in 20ish states. There was an article on the beetle in Nebraskaland. Spotted lanternfly not found has not been found in Nebraska yet. It is prime time to find the adult now in the tree of heaven. If you are a delivery truck, you must have an agreement with the state that you will inspect your trucks if leaving. There are 90 companies from Nebraska that have compliance agreements in the states outside east where spotted lanternflies have been found. The USDA will not regulate the lanternfly but will give state funds to control it. Pennsylvania was given 17 million this year to deal with it. West coast cargo planes have found spotted lanternflies. There will be a meeting in February to discuss this. So much is unknown about the pest which is why we are concerned. It moves on everything like a gypsy moth.

Japanese beetles were not killed off this winter. York, NE had bad feeding damage this year.

Nebraska recognizes some specific counties as infested with Japanese beetle, but they are not under quarantine by the Nebraska Dept of Ag.

- IV.** John Thorburn-phragmites spraying occurred on the lower Platte River and an airboat was used to spray in the central Platte River. In the Holdrege area, pine wilt is bad this year and there will be scotch pines lost. Golden oak scale is a nursery insect and was found in Holdrege. Julie said we see it on white oak trees.
- V.** Kelsey Jolley-the Missouri river is going to be coming back up and many sites near the banks remain underwater. These areas will have invasive species concerns due to the flooding.
- VI.** Steven Jara-the Forest family fun night is today in Plattsmouth from 5-10pm. Next week on Friday, 100th year at forestry hall and Smokey's 75th birthday will be an event on east campus.
- VII.** Justin King-Electroshocking was conducted in the river near Cooper nuclear station, and it is done 2 times a year. They found hundreds of little catfish due to the flooding. They found a large 70 lb. blue catfish.
- VIII.** Council members are welcome to attend a tour of the Omaha Public Power District's Nebraska City public power plant to learn about their zebra mussel control system. The tour will be on November 8th.

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