

**Summary of Minutes of the Invasive Species Advisory Committee Meeting  
March 4 - 5, 2003**

**DAY 1 – Tuesday, March 4, 2003**

On March 4 and 5, 2003, a meeting of the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) of the National Invasive Species Council (NISC) was held at the Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, N.W., Washington, D.C. Below is the summary of the agenda items and upon request is the full transcript of the meetings is available.

**ISAC Members in Attendance:**

Randall Stocker, Chair	Martin Hugh-Jones
Nelroy Jackson, Vice Chair	Jerome A. Jackson
Ann Bartuska, Secretary	Marilyn B. Leland
K. George Beck	David M. Lodge
Gary M. Beil	Ronald R. Lukens
E. Shippen Bright	Kathy J. Metcalf
Michael G. Buck	N. Marshall Meyers
Faith T. Campbell	Charles R. O’Neill
Allegra A. Cangelosi	Willie M. Reed
Barbara Cooksley	Craig Regelbrugge
Diane Cooper	Sarah Reichard
Joseph Corn	Linda M. Sheehan
Willard “Bill” Dickerson	Duane Shroufe
Lucius G. Eldredge	Jeffrey Stone

**National Invasive Species Council Staff:**

Lori Williams, Executive Director  
Chris Dionigi, Assistant Director (Domestic)  
Kelsey Passe, Program Analyst  
Robin Lattier, Intern (Texas A&M University)

**Others in Attendance:**

Rebecca Bech, USDA/APHIS  
Gordon Brown, DOI Liaison to NISC  
Scott Cameron, Dep. Asst. Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, DOI  
Tim Keeney, Dep. Asst. Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, DOC  
Arnold Konheim, DOT Policy Liaison to NISC  
Susan McCarthy, Website Coordinator, USDA/NAL  
Richard Orr, USDA/APHIS  
Greg Ruiz, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center  
Brian Steves, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center  
Jim Tate, Science Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior  
Dean Wilkinson, DOC Liaison to NISC

March 4, 2003 Transcript Summary (page numbers refer to the transcript page number for 3/4/03, transcript files available upon request)

**Welcoming Remarks and Overview of Meeting – Randall Stocker and Lori Williams**

Randall Stocker called the meeting to order and briefly spoke about the importance of ISAC activities in the management of invasive species (pages 5-10). Lori Williams gave brief greetings and asked that the audience introduce themselves and their affiliation (page 10-12).

**ISAC Officers Activity and Progress Report – Nelroy Jackson**

Nelroy Jackson began by mentioning the growth of the National Invasive Weed Awareness Week meeting held the week before, noting that the issues of invasive species, noxious weeds specifically, are increasingly important issues to the American government. He also commended the work of the Departments of the Interior (G. Brown) and Agriculture (R. Bech) (pages 12-13).

**Remarks from NISC Principals – Jim Tate, Tim Keeney, and Rebecca Bech**

Jim Tate told a story about a young man from Ghana, making the point that the issue of invasive species is related to many different issues and that there has been a great deal of progress to date. He also discussed Ralstonia, an invasive plant pathogen (pages 13-19). Tim Keeney noted his support of the National Management Plan. He pointed out to ISAC that the Plan has created an opportunity for invasive species issues to receive necessary dollars in the crosscut budget process (pages 19-26). Rebecca Bech informed the ISAC of Agriculture Secretary Veneman's continued support for the management of invasive species. She also reminded ISAC that Dr. Charles "Chuck" Lambert would be assuming the duties of USDA Principal from Dr. Jim Butler (pages 26-29).

**Review of Progress on Previous Action Items – Randall Stocker and Lori Williams**

(Approval of the minutes from last meeting) Randall Stocker called for a motion, made by Gary Beil. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes (page 12). Dr. Stocker reviewed a list of issues that were brought at the last meeting (October 2002) and informed them of the current status of each issue (pages 33-52).

**NISC Update – Lori Williams, Rebecca Bech, Gordon Brown, Dean Wilkinson, Arnold Konheim**

Lori Williams announced that the Council would be filling existing vacancies and several new staff positions. She gave highlights of the actions taken at the last Council meeting (pages 52- 57). Rebecca Bech and Richard Orr addressed the issue of enforcement information. Ms. Bech also spoke briefly about the addition of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to the Council (pages 57-69). Arnold Konheim spoke about the activities going on in the Department of Transportation (pages 79-87).

### **Progress on Cross-Cut Budget – Scott Cameron and Bill Dickerson**

Scott Cameron thanked the appropriate individuals and agencies for their work on the FY04 crosscut budget, and spoke about the newly created communications packet on the crosscut. He was pleased to announce that the National Invasive Species Council's crosscut budget was mentioned in the President's budget. Mr. Cameron gave a brief description of the FY05 process (pages 88-102). Bill Dickerson informed ISAC of its role in making recommendations regarding topics that may be included in the FY05 budget process, and asked that each member take the time to carefully consider their recommendations (pages 103-112).

### **Members Forum**

- Ralstonia – Bill Dickerson complimented Jim Tate on his earlier presentation that seemed to simplify Ralstonia for people. Randall Stocker also mentioned the importance of Ralstonia and possibly making it an "Invasive of the Month" (112-121).
- International Representation – Gary Beil asked Lori Williams about the status of the vacant position of NISC International Director on the NISC staff, and expressed his worry about our international contacts. Lori did assure him that the position was soon to be filled and in the meantime Jim White and Richard Orr have been assisting in maintaining the Council's awareness on international invasive species issues (pages 121-124).
- International ANSTF Meeting – Chuck O'Neil invited ISAC members to the meeting in Windsor, Ontario in early June because of his recent awareness of ANSTF unfamiliarity with terrestrial invasive species. Ron Lukens also commented on large gap of unknowns between the ISAC, NISC and ANSTF. He and Dean Wilkinson recommended attending some regional panels dealing with aquatic invasives to become more aware of these species (pages 124-131).
- Oregon Invasive Species Council – Jeffrey Stone informed the audience that Oregon has established a Council that is unfunded thus far and have produced an Invasive Species Action Plan (pages 131-133).
- Available Presentations to view from L. Eldredge – Lu Eldredge stated that he could make power-point presentations available upon request for anyone interested. Presentations are available regarding the Coral Reef Task Force on non-invasive species in Hawaiian waters, and on coral reef, non-indigenous and invasive species for a symposium at the International Coral Reef Symposium (pages 133-137).
- Interests in Invasive Species – Ann Bartuska mentioned that the National Arboretum and the U.S. Botanic Garden have expressed a serious interest in invasive species. She also summarized her meeting with Randall Stocker, Nelroy Jackson and NRCS about reaching out to private landowners (pages 137-149).
- Preparation for Lisa Waigner Presentation – Randall Stocker recommended the audience read ahead of time a section in the notebooks to become familiar with economic terms for a later discussion. Dr. Stocker then dismissed the group for lunch (pages 149-156).

## **Reports and Recommendations from Task Teams**

- **Information and Management Task Team** – Ron Lukens, Greg Ruiz, and Brian Steves

Ron Lukens opened their group presentation by introducing those involved and summarizing their goals for the presentations. Greg Ruiz gave a presentation on the history of the Information and Management Task Team as well as the database that USGS and the Smithsonian are currently working on that will house hundreds of thousands of fresh water and marine invasions (pages 161-170). Brian Steves followed with slides of the actual website to show how efficient it is to use, as well as resourceful (pages 170-176). Ron then summed up their presentation and opened the floor for questions (pages 176-189).

- **Invasive Species Website Update** – Susan McCarthy

Susan McCarthy gave a presentation and update on what is to come for the invasive species website. She gave an overview of the various tools available. She then opened the floor to questions (pages 189-201).

- **Leadership and Coordination Task Team** – Ron Lukens

Ron Lukens summarized guidelines that the team had been drafting, and asked ISAC to consider using them during the growth of state and federal partnerships. After minor grammatical corrections, the Committee agreed on adopting the guidelines for ISAC to apply (pages 202-215).

\*Lori Williams gave a brief update on the **National Management Plan Revisions** that will undergo a few changes due to a few amendments in the Executive Order. The changes involved rewording of the E.O. to encompass some of the newer actions NISC has planned for the future (pages 215-218).

\*Following Ms. Williams' quick update, Randall Stocker mentioned an ISAC presentation at the next Council meeting. This led to a discussion about Dr. Stocker being authorized to speak on behalf of ISAC without its prior approval (pages 219-230).

## **Resolving Regulatory and Jurisdictional Conflict – Nelroy Jackson and Lori Williams**

Nelroy Jackson began with his thoughts of how Lori Williams should receive more help on this matter considering that it is spread across the federal level. Ms. Williams then followed with the update on what had transpired so far between agencies. Their plan is to develop an informal way to go about solving disputes between agencies at all governing levels. She identified Alternative Dispute Resolution as being a strong option for invasive issues (pages 230-247).

## **Public Comment – Jamie Reaser, Phyllis Windell**

Jamie Reaser, formally with NISC and now with the Global Invasive Species Programme, commented on the meeting in Windsor, Ontario and invited members of the Council and Committee to attend. Phyllis Windell, of the Union of Concerned Scientists, has published invasive portfolios on the states of Texas and West Virginia. Another portfolio on Alaska is currently being revised for publication (pages 247-258).

**DAY 2 – Wednesday, March 5, 2003**

**ISAC Members in Attendance:**

Randall Stocker, Chair	Lucius G. Eldredge
Nelroy Jackson, Vice Chair	Martin Hugh-Jones
Ann Bartuska, Secretary	Jerome A. Jackson
K. George Beck	Marilyn B. Leland
Gary M. Beil	Ronald R. Lukens
E. Shippen Bright	N. Marshall Meyers
Michael G. Buck	Charles R. O'Neill
Faith T. Campbell	Willie M. Reed
Allegra A. Cangelosi	Craig Regelbrugge
Barbara Cooksley	Sarah Reichard
Diane Cooper	Linda M. Sheehan
Joseph Corn	Duane Shroufe
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Kelsey Passe, Program Analyst  
Robin Lattier, Intern – Texas A&M University

**Others in Attendance:**

Rebecca Bech, USDA/APHIS  
Gordon Brown, DOI Liaison to NISC  
Scott Cameron, Dep. Asst. Secretary for Performance and Budget, DOI  
Arnold Konheim, DOT Policy Liaison to NISC  
Chuck Lambert, Dep. Asst. Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, USDA  
Michael Orazo, Department of Homeland Security  
Richard Orr, USDA  
Jim Tate, Science Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior  
Lisa Waigner, University of Maryland  
Dean Wilkinson, DOC Liaison to NISC

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**Open Meeting and Introductions – Randall Stocker and Chuck Lambert**

Randall Stocker opened the meeting and introduced Jim Butler's replacement, Dr. Charles "Chuck" Lambert. Dr. Lambert spoke of his background and his readiness to take on his new position (pages 7-16).

**North American Strategy – Richard Orr**

Richard Orr gave the briefing on progress of the North American Strategy in place of Dana Roth, who was in Cuba. Mr. Orr asked for suggestions from ISAC on how to effectively communicate trilaterally with Mexico and Canada about invasive species.

Ms. Roth had established contact with Mexico and Canada, but the specifics of their correspondence were not given (pages 16-21).

### **Education and Outreach Teams – Ship Bright and Lisa Waigner**

Ship Bright spoke of the economic study discussed yesterday, and commented that it would be beneficial to have NISC follow up. He also referred to a current story in the Washington Post about zebra mussel in the Occoquan River watershed (pages 21-24). Randall Stocker added that ISAC members will vote the letter up or down with minor changes (pages 24-26).

### **Summary of Invasive Economic Issues – Lisa Waigner**

Lisa Waigner spoke of cost benefit analysis, cost effectiveness analysis, and decision analysis and how each one, if used effectively, can put dollar values on environmental services. Gary Osteen with USDA-ERS discussed current work and funding. He and Ms. Waigner then participated in a question and answer session (pages 42-64). Several people in attendance mentioned different invasives for which cost effective analysis have been done (pages 64-82).

### **Pathways Task Team Update – Faith Campbell**

Faith Campbell updated those in attendance on their team's efforts to organize the various invasive species pathways. She mentioned the pathways task team was open to suggestions on better ways to organize complicated pathways information in a format easily interpreted by the general public. Dr. Campbell then answered questions about this topic (pages 82-91).

### **Early Detection & Rapid Response – Barbara Cooksley**

Barbara Cooksley spoke about guidelines developed by the ED & RR team. These guidelines are based around early detection, rapid assessment, and rapid response. Ron Lukens continued to discuss ED & RR; specifically, the support of states surveys that could assist in federal research and guidelines for ED & RR. This discussion led to the issue of funding for states that contribute to ED & RR efforts (pages 96-112).

\*Before the legislative updates Michael Orazo gave a brief overview of the **Department of Homeland Security**, and how its potential role in invasive species efforts. A question and answer session evolved after his presentation (pages 113-132).

### **Legislative Update – Dr. George Beck, Allegra Cangelosi, and Ann Bartuska**

- Craig/Daschle Bill – George Beck reported that the S144 bill, “Harmful Invasive Weed Control Act of 2003”, has been moved out on to the floor and is suppose to be acted upon in a few weeks (page 132).
- Hefley Bill – Dr. Beck also informed participants that meeting for HR119, “Harmful Invasive Weed Control Act of 2003”, has been referred to two different committees and has encountered some controversy. Congress needs to make sure that the differences in the two bills are understood among Congressional members (pages 132-136).
- NISA Reauthorization Bill – Allegra Cangelosi announced that the HR266, “NISA Reauthorization Bill” and the Ehlers Bill were both due to be introduced

- to the Senate and House on March 5, 2003. Lori Williams gave a more detailed report as to the progress of the NISA Reauthorization Bill (pages 136-159).
- Transportation and Equity Act – Ann Bartuska could not comment thoroughly on the bill because it is still in review. Arnold Konheim mentioned that the name of the bill has changed to “Safety and Flexible Transportation Efficiency Act of 2003” (pages 159-166).

#### **Meeting Updates – Randall Stocker, Allegra Cangelosi**

Allegra Cangelosi raised the question of how to raise funds to ensure resources for programs that ISAC and NISC may feel are at a high level of importance. A short discussion followed before the meeting broke for lunch (pages 166-172).

#### **International Front Update – George Beil**

Gary Beil summarized what has been done so far with the International group. At its recent meeting, the group reviewed the Management Plan to highlight all issues that will be addressed, and also to determine how to become involved with invasive species agencies/groups of other nations (pages 173-186).

#### **Election of new Steering Committee – Nelroy Jackson**

Nelroy Jackson, along with Randall Stocker and members of the Steering Committee, increased the number of members from 5 to 8 people. The entire ISAC then elected Jerry Jackson, Diane Cooper and Marilyn Leland as members of the Steering Committee. Kathy Metcalf and Michael Buck both resigned (pages 187-196).

#### **FY'05 Budget Suggested Projects and Voting – Lori Williams**

Lori Williams along with Bill Dickerson, Ron Lukens, and Randall Stocker laid the foundation for the voting of invasive crosscut initiatives. Each attendee had five votes for 15 different invasive entities to be funded in the 2005 crosscut budget (pages 196-236).

#### **Upcoming ISAC Meeting – Lori Williams**

Lori Williams and Randall Stocker discussed possible locations for the next two ISAC meetings. Hawaii was chosen over Alaska for the ISAC meeting that is to take place on the first week in March of 2004 (pages 237-258).

#### **Mid-Point Review of ISAC Measures of Success – Randall Stocker**

Randall Stocker led discussion on the best ways for ISAC to measure what has been accomplished through ISAC and the Council. A professional survey seemed to be the best way to measure the mid-point success, and Rebecca Bech mentioned that APHIS's Policy and Planning Division should be able to perform such a survey (pages 258-271).

#### **FY'05 Budget Suggested Projects Voting Results – Lori Williams**

Lori Williams reported that the voting had a few problems, but Ann Bartuska was able to decipher some of the higher votes. Some of the more popular choices were Economic and Environmental Analysis, Prevention, and Emergency Contingency Fund. There also was a discussion of what initiatives are actually going to be presented before the Council at its March 2003 meeting (pages 271-295).

### **Review of Action Items – Ann Bartuska**

- Continue with Invasive Species of the Month.
- Send success stories to NISC
- Funding Needs - (a) identify total budget needs of invasive species threat with some scope of the total package (NISC) - (b) assess the cost of not addressing invasive species with an economic research service action.
- Comments on Faith Campbell's Pathway's document from ISAC members were due by March 31, 2003.
- Allegra Cangelosi will draft a letter of appreciation to Cathy Short.
- Draft a letter from ISAC to NISC on their position on HR266, National Invasive Species Council Act, Ehler's bill
- 2005 crosscut budget recommendations were due to Bill Dickerson and Lori Williams by March 10, 2003.
- Future ISAC meetings:
  - o June 24-25, 2003 – Chicago, IL
  - o March 2 -3, 2004 – Oahu, HI
- Midterm assessment of progress to be presented at June meeting.
- Ron Lukens and Michael Buck will be drafting a letter about State/Federal Partnership Guidelines that will be forwarded to Randall Stocker and then forwarded to agency heads.
- Provide examples of conflicts or issues that need harmonization to Lori Williams by March 18, 2003
- The North American Strategy will send any comments to Gary Beil and then forward them to the International Committee who will then forward it to NISC by March 31, 2003

### **Public Comments – Peter Egan**

Peter Egan, DOD Policy Liaison to NISC, gave a summary of the FICMNEW workshop in Fort Collins, Colorado. At the workshop, there was a discussion that led to the idea of creating a national early warning and rapid response system for invasive plants. FICMNEW has also expressed interest in presenting information at the next ISAC meeting (pages 303-305).

### **Final Comments – Randall Stocker**

Final thoughts from various members of the Committee were given and the meeting was adjourned.