

# ISAC Meeting – May 2012

## ACTION OR INFORMATION ITEM

**Sponsor:** Bob Wiltshire (bob@stopans.org) & Lori Williams (Lori\_Williams@ios.doi.gov)

**Topic:** Evaluating Incentives that Promote the Harvest of Invasive Species

**Speaker:** Susan Pasko (Susan.Pasko@noaa.gov) & Jason Goldberg (Jason\_Goldberg@fws.gov)

### **1. DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:**

“Invasivory,” or utilization of invasive species for food, clothing, and other uses has recently received significant public interest and media attention as a means to control and manage invasive species. However, such use also raises possible concerns from both biological and socioeconomic perspectives that could unintentionally lead to more substantial invasions or incentives to spread invasive species more widely. What do decision-makers need to know in order to effectively evaluate whether a given incentive to encourage harvest and use of invasive species will achieve its intended purpose? We will review the options and discuss how ISAC can lead the way in this previously unexplored policy.

### **2. WHY IS THIS ITEM IMPORTANT TO NISC / ISAC? HOW IS IT RELATED TO THE NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN?**

NISC and ISAC provide reliable information and advice on invasive species to decision-makers. “Invasivory” has strong support but has not yet received a critical review to ensure its effectiveness as a tool for control and management. This is a significant leadership opportunity for NISC and ISAC to develop relationships with outside partners in the scientific, industry, and NGO community to develop recommendations that will ensure invasivory is used in an appropriate way. It directly relates to Strategic Goal 3 and 5 of the NISMP.

### **3. PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN BY NISC / ISAC ON THIS ITEM:**

ISAC has organized a Task Team led by Bob Wiltshire and Lori Williams, and staffed by Susan Pasko and Jason Goldberg, to begin exploring this issue. The Team was charged with developing a brief white paper for discussion by ISAC, with more detailed analysis and possible journal publication to follow to more broadly communicate the efforts of the Team.

### **4. ACTION REQUESTED OF NISC / ISAC:**

We request one hour to present our initial recommendations and discuss them with ISAC. We request comments and perspectives on what additional analysis might be needed, who might join the more detailed analysis effort, and other actions that can be pursued to ensure invasivory is used as an effective tool.

### **5. ALTERNATIVES:**

We can submit the white paper to ISAC for review outside of the meeting, however discussion by the Committee will likely be more productive in setting guidance for next steps.

### **6. ATTACHMENTS:**

None.