

**Arizona Invasive Species Advisory Council Meeting (AISAC)
Tuesday April 1, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Amator, Fred (AZ Crop Protection Association)
Brock, Dr. John (ASU)
Caravetta, John (ADA)
Eshkibok, Sheri (GITA)
Farhinger, Glenn (Cave Creek Landscape and Nursery Industry)
Gerstenberger, John (PetSmart)
Johnson, Geneieve (AZ State Parks)
Klabunde, Tom (TNF)
Lawaczeck, Dr. Elisabeth (ADHS)
Levitt, Jerry (USDA APHIS)
McGrew, Brian (ADA)
Meding, Marianne (AGFD)
Northam, Dr. Ed (Southwest Veg Management; Cooperative Weed management)
Roberts, Joanne (AZ State Parks)
Russel, Gary (USDA APHIS)
Shireman, Rick (NPS)
Trask, Chris (ANPS)
Umeda, Kai (U of A, Cooperative Extension)
Webber, Magill (The Nature Conservancy)
Wells, Stuart (Phoenix Zoo)
Werner, Bill (ADWR)
Witte, Doug (ASLD)

Call to Order

John Caravetta, standing in for the Council Co-chair Don Butler from Department of Agriculture, called the Arizona Invasive Species Advisory Council meeting to order at 1:05 pm at Arizona State University Decision Theater located at 21 E. 6th Street, Suite 126A, Tempe, AZ 85287.

Roll Call of Arizona Invasive Species Advisory Council

The Arizona Invasive Species Advisory Council meeting commenced with Mr. Caravetta conducting roll call. Introductions were also done at this time.

Welcome & Introductions

There is one change to the agenda and that was to remove item number 7 as Mr. Larry Riley was unable to attend the meeting, and there was no progress on the invasive species memorandum of understanding among state agencies, federal agencies and stakeholders to report.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from March 4, 2008 was motioned by John Gerstenberger and seconded by Glen Fahringer. The motion passed unanimously.

Strategies for Meeting Invasive Species Information Management Needs

Sherri Eshkibok from Government Information and Technology Agency (GITA) gave an update on the progress made by the information task team. There has been good progress for the database tools and Sabra Schwartz from the Arizona Game and Fish Department has done a great job so far in coordinating with iMAPInvasives via NatureServe.

Update on Public Meetings to Solicit Public Review and Comment on Draft Statewide Invasive Species management Plan

Marianne Meding discussed how each public meeting went and thanked the Council members who were involved. Overall, the turnout was okay with some good questions being asked. There was a question asked about the possibility of a meeting on the Navajo reservation.

Ms. Meding mentioned that the MOU is being circulated and she asked that we keep it in check since it is still under review. John Caravetta reiterated the need for confidentiality on state documents.

Joanne Roberts asked about maybe doing a couple of more meetings public meetings. Bill Werner indicated that in his experience the turn out that was received for the six invasive species public meetings was typical and did not recommend adding any additional public meetings.

The presentation shown at the public meeting was given for the Council to view. The presentation is available on CD; Council members were instructed to please contact Brian McGrew if they desired a copy.

Review Management Plan Development Schedule through June 30, 2008

John Caravetta mentioned that Marianne Meding has taken on a new position at Game and Fish and will slowly be weaning away from the Council. Mr. Caravetta said the Council will need to think about leadership in the future and people will need to step up and take on more responsibility.

Marianne Meding mentioned that comments regarding the invasive species management plan can be submitted online thru the Governor's website or by mail and that the deadline is April 7. It will then take 1 to 2 weeks to incorporate them into the plan then on to layout. The plan must be in layout by the next Council meeting.

An executive summary still needs to be developed for the management plan and Mr. Caravetta said it should be the state agencies and work group leads should meet to develop the summary, keeping in mind that the audience is the Governor. The core group should start working on the summary and then get it out to the Council for review. A teleconference is possible for the review.

Ms. Meding said we are still on schedule but the final document may be influenced by comment/feedback from the Governor, and that recommendations will likely become actions at that point in time.

Quality is key for the photos which must be at least 300DPI and make sure credit is given to the proper person, as well as include a suggested caption.

The final draft management plan will be posted on the Governor's website once approved. Please send any additional photos for use in the management plan to Ms. Meding or Mr. McGrew by April 15. Marianne Meding indicated that Lori Faeth will likely provide guidance on the process for presenting the final management plan to the Governor.

Review and Discussion of Outcomes from Council Member John Brock's Attendance at the national Invasive Weed Awareness Week in February 2008

Dr. Brock mentioned that attendance was approximately 80% from the western states and travel and accommodations cost approximately \$1500.00. He gave an overview of what was discussed that week.

Call to the Public

Mr. Caravetta opened the floor to the public to see if there were issues or concerns to be discussed with Council. Doug Witte asked about cosponsoring a day symposium in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Kai Umeda mentioned he was on board and they are still trying to solicit more people.

Future Agenda Items

The following agenda items were identified at previous meetings and may be considered for addition to future meeting agendas:

- MOU update and signature process
- Plans to present document to Governor and where it will go once to the Governor
- Future of the Council meetings and the schedule beyond June 30.
- Sponsorship/endorsement of symposia etc.
- Decision Theater Overview

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.