

**CALIFORNIA INVASIVE SPECIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CISAC)  
MEETING  
CDFA AUDITORIUM**

Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, July 13, 2011

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) was called to order at 10:10 a.m. on July 13, 2011 in Sacramento, by Committee Chair Doug Johnson.

**CISAC Members Present:**

Brandon, Victoria	DeLeon, Ricardo	DiTomaso, Joseph
Fox, Andrea	Hoffman, Robert	Godfrey, Larry
Goldsmith, Jay	Guise, Vince	Johnson, Doug
Lydick, Julie	McDowell, Karen	Peterson, Betsy
Sonnabend, Zia	Warner, Keith	

**Via Webinar:**

Christiana Conser

**CISAC Members Absent:**

Arcularius, Linda	Pattison, David	Randall, John
Schierenbeck, Kristina		

**California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Staff Present:**

Dias, Michele	Espinoza, Alexandra	Leavitt, Robert
Morris, Amber	Pegos, David	Zadig, Dorthea

**Opening Comments:**

Chair Doug Johnson welcomed the committee, staff and members of the public participating in person and online. Executive Director Robert Leavitt conveyed the regrets of Department of Food & Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross that she would be unable to attend, and the hope that Undersecretary Sandra Schubert could join during the course of the day.

**Approval of Strategic Framework:**

Copies of the Framework were distributed for discussion, with changes subsequent to the most recent round of public comments highlighted. Responses to comments received in both the first and second round were also passed around. The committee then addressed each recent change individually, accepting most as given or with only minor textual revision. Significant editorial changes made since the previous public draft include: a new sidebar on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) added to the Detection and Response section; change of the Framework comprehensive revision date from 2013 to 2014; a

paragraph explicitly addressing possible negative consequences of invasive species management added to the Introduction; explicit notation that the proposed public health working group be charged with making recommendations to minimize risks (LC-7); clarification of environmental education recommendation (OPE-3); and a new definition of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) (Glossary).

Zea Sonnabend suggested that the Framework express support for the disclosure of inert ingredients in pesticide formulations.

**Motion:** Add the sentence “The disclosure of all inert ingredients in products used for invasive species management is encouraged” to the end of OPE-2. (*Provide clear public health information in invasive species management.*)

Made by: Zea Sonnabend  
Second: Joseph DiTomaso  
All in favor.

Ms. Sonnabend also suggested that the desirability of prioritizing an ecological approach to invasive species management be made more explicit. By consensus, the committee agreed to change the last sentence of the introduction to the Eradication and Management section to mirror the University of California definition of IPM, with wording to be provided later. [As subsequently drafted, this sentence reads “Management efforts should employ Integrated Pest Management (IPM), an ecosystem-based strategy for the long-term prevention of pest damage through a combination of low-risk techniques (see Glossary for full definitions).”]

Victoria Brandon announced a clean copy of the Framework incorporating last-minute changes would be ready the following day.

**Strategic Framework Public Comment:**

The committee discussed the responses to public comment, with the understanding that these would be posted on the ISCC website after the Framework has been formally adopted by ISCC. A few minor changes in wording were made to the responses to the comments received in the first (September-October 2010) comment period.

**Motion:** CISAC adopts the first set of responses as amended.  
Made by: Victoria Brandon  
Second: Julie Lydick  
All in favor.

Changes to responses to the comments received in the second round (April-June 2011) include reference to the newly added sentence about inert ingredients and strengthened language on IPM, and language referring to AB 2763 (Laird, 2009: requiring CDFA to conduct advance planning on pest control programs) to the discussion of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) now in progress.

**Motion:** CISAC adopts the second set of responses as amended.  
Made by: Keith Warner  
Second: Betsy Peterson  
All in favor.

Discussion of the cover letter to accompany the Framework when it is presented to ISCC was postponed until after lunch.

**Presentation:** Preventing the introduction and spread of marine invasive species, by Nicole Dobroski, California State Lands Commission.

Ballast water and vessel fouling are the two most significant vectors for the introduction of aquatic invasive species (AIS). Worldwide, commercial shipping is responsible for nearly 80 percent of AIS introductions, with more than 7000 species transported in ballast water, and millions of organisms released in each contamination event. The situation is getting worse because of the large and growing volume of global trade and higher survival rate attributed to faster ships. Vessel biofouling causes 36 percent of AIS introductions to coastal habitats, and is a particularly important vector in Hawaii. California adopted inter-agency control mechanisms in 1999, funded by fees on shipping. In 2004, the enabling legislation was expanded and renamed the Marine Invasive Species Act.

Protective strategies against ballast water contamination include:

- Retention of all ballast water on the vessel
- Mid ocean exchange of ballast water (with safety and efficiency issues)
- Discharge to a reception facility (of which there are none in California)
- Ballast water treatment (now under development)

Over 80 percent of ships now retain their ballast water, but treatment methods and performance standards are under development, as mandated by the Coastal Ecosystems Protection Act of 2006. In a recent (2010) review of technologies, 46 treatment methods were evaluated, of which eight demonstrated some potential to meet California standards, with three commercially-available systems succeeding more than 50 percent of the time. The main focus is on chlorine treatments. All new large vessels will have to meet standards by 2012. There are 12,000 vessel voyages into the state annually; to be effective in insuring compliance, at least 25 percent must be inspected. An advisory panel has been convened, and state agencies are cooperating with the federal EPA and the Coast Guard, and working with several shipping firms and Moss Landing laboratory to develop compliance protocols.

Recommendations on biofouling prevention were sent to the legislature in 2006, concentrating on the necessity to identify high-risk vessels and fill information gaps. AB 7400 (2007) requires regular removal of fouling, which must be minimized in any case for efficient operation. The intent is to build on what is already being done, by paying attention to high risk “niche areas” that don’t contribute to drag but can harbor harmful organisms, and to be especially attentive to vessels that have extended layups. A required Hull Husbandry Reporting Form includes questions about maintenance, anti-fouling paints, length of layovers, and whether the ship visits both fresh and saltwater ports. Vector-oriented research in collaboration with the Smithsonian is ongoing; next steps will include the development of new regulations, insuring consistency with international partners, addressing problematic niche areas and identifying high-risk vessels. Draft regulations are nearly ready for release, and may be adopted by January 2012.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** Approve the minutes of the March 9, 2011, CISAC meeting and attached Public Comment addendum.

Made by: Julie Lydick

Second: Robert Hoffman

All in favor, except Joseph DiTomaso who abstained.

**Motion:** Approve the minutes of the May 10, 2011, CISAC meeting and attached Public Comment addendum.

Made by: Joseph DiTomaso

Second: Karen McDowell

All in favor, except Ricardo DeLeon who abstained.

The committee requested that the minutes and agenda be posted to the ISCC website immediately.

### **STATUS UPDATES**

**(a) Statewide Plant Pest Prevention and Management Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) (Michele Dias).** Scoping meetings have already been held in Chico, Sacramento and Orange County, and are upcoming in San Francisco and Fresno. Although attendance has not been heavy, comments have been constructive and public reaction generally positive. The consultant will prepare a scoping report on comments received after the comment period closes on July 25. The next step will be to recruit a broadly-based and diverse Technical Advisory Committee that will participate actively in the PEIR process throughout. Credentials needed for service on the committee will be posted to the PEIR webpage by the end of the month. Everyone is encouraged to sign up on the webpage for email updates. Next will come preparation of a draft EIR, followed by a second round of public hearings (at least five) in various locations around the state. In the meantime, CDFA is consulting with sister agencies and doing outreach to other groups. The PEIR will include a “decision tree” to spell out just what happens when a pest is detected, including a narrative of the process and a flow chart.

**Discussion of the Framework cover letter** (postponed from the morning) followed because the draft prepared by Doug Johnson included a paragraph expressing CISAC’s support for the PEIR process. By consensus, the committee decided that it would be preferable to send two separate letters, one simply presenting the Framework to ISCC, and the other reiterating the committee’s support for the PEIR process as detailed in section DR-2 of the Framework.

**Motion:** Authorize Doug Johnson and Andrea Fox to compose a letter of support for the PEIR process that cites section DR-2, and to submit it to ISCC.

Made by: Betsy Peterson

Second: Andrea Fox

All in favor, except for Karen McDowell who abstained.

**(b) Invasive Species List and Scorecards.** New reviewers are continuing to sign on, and additional scorecards being prepared. A new approach will delve more deeply into pathways, and a pathway list is being developed. Since this task involves a great deal of work, the suggestion was made to hire CISAC member Christiana Conser as a consultant

to compose a comprehensive list of pathways and make an assessment of their comparative risks related to different invasive species.

**(c) Farmers market outreach campaign.** Andrea Fox passes around a redesigned brochure with revised text. Consensus that this draft is much better, but several suggestions for further improvements were made. She will take it back to the designer and work with him on selection of graphics.

**(d) “Buy It Where You Burn It” firewood campaign (Julie Lydick).** CDFA is entering into a cooperative agreement to implement the outreach program (as presented at the May 10 CISAC meeting), providing a \$25,000 match to \$100,000 from federal funding sources. The State Parks Department is contributing \$90,000 for public education. The campaign will also promote air drying of domestic firewood. The National Forest Service plans to install posters in their California campgrounds.

**(e) Other member reports.**

- Yesterday Vince Guise attended a Pest Risk Committee meeting on preventing the entry of invasive species at California seaports, with participation from several Agricultural Commissioners and Customs and Border Patrol. A list of websites that help determine risk level and pest distribution is now available.
- Karen Mcdowell reports that the Northwest Regional Conference on Invasive Species to be held on October 12-13 will include a panel on quagga/zebra mussels and another on aquatic invasives generally. The state estuary conference on September 20-21 will include discussion of aquatic invasives.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were received.

**Next meeting:** The next regularly scheduled CISAC meeting will take place at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 21, in Sacramento.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Brandon, CISAC secretary.