

## Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team

### Third Quarter Meeting

Tuesday August 8, 2023; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

### Attendees

- Gina Darin – California Department of Water Resources
- Jonathan Tompson – State Lands Commission
- Virginia Gardiner – Delta Protection Commission
- Jeffrey Caudill – CA State Parks
- Heidi Himes – USFWS
- Cesar Blanco, USFWS Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator (CA/NV)
- Eddie Hard – CA State Parks/Boating and Waterways
- Matt Slattengren – Contra Costa County Ag Commissioner
- Elizabeth Brusati, CDFW Invasive Species Program
- Lauren Damon – SSJDC
- Mary Maret – Sac County WMA
- Jose Martinez – CA State Parks/Boating and Waterways (Floating and Aquatic veg)
- Edwin Grosholz – UC Davis
- David Kratville – CA Department of Food and Agriculture

### Notes

#### Welcome and Announcements

- DIISC Intro and Purpose (<http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/about-the-diisc/>).
  - The Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team was formed in 2013 to foster communication and collaboration among California state agencies, federal agencies, research and conservation groups, and other stakeholders that detect, prevent, and manage invasive species and restore invaded habitats in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. We approach this purpose through three major avenues: Exchange of information like what we will do today in our Agency round robin, identification and prioritization of management and research needs, and by leveraging funding sources to address emerging concerns in the Delta.
- Delta Invasive Species Symposium happening Nov. 30, save the Date and solicitation is forthcoming, keep an eye out for those
- Delta Week in September
- Cal-IPC Symposium in Chico (and hybrid virtual) in October, Call for Abstracts due June 15, <https://www.cal-ipc.org/resources/symposium/>
  - Early bird rates end Aug. 21
- EDRR funding solicitation: [http://www.iscc.ca.gov/cisac\\_meetings.html](http://www.iscc.ca.gov/cisac_meetings.html)

- ISCC meeting will be end of 2023 to approve rapid response funds
- Solicitation is continuously open, \$100,000 max
- CA invasive species list – <https://calinvasives.ucdavis.edu/>
- Noxious Weed Grant Program – Gina to send more info
- USEPA Wetland Grant
  - Request for proposals coming soon, funds available first quarter of 2024
  - Projects should be linked to the Wetland Program Plan (new plan coming soon)
- CISAC – Field trip: two Sacramento days, one day only for decision-makers.
  - Meeting does not involve Delta (Coverage is Sac to Folsom on American River). Request for Delta input likely to occur next year.

#### Agency Round Robin

- Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
  - Working on Invasive Species symposium, update at bottom of notes
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Had California Invasive Species Action Week
    - Panel with secretaries – recording available via YouTube
      - You Tube link for panel with Sec. Crowfoot and Ross - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhxNXBeflis>
    - Spotlight on Invasive species
  - *Nerodia* water snake eradication program ongoing
    - No capture at Roseville site
    - Folsom area – still catching them there
- California Department of Water Resources
  - Blacklock spraying starting this fall
  - FRP control of aquatic invasive species
- Delta Stewardship Council
  - Salinity management workshop  
[deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/adaptive-management](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/adaptive-management)
  - Biannual solicitation should go out in September, LOI due October. Will send out solicitation when available  
[deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/delta-science-proposal-solicitations](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/delta-science-proposal-solicitations)
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Multiple vacancies open and hiring is ongoing
- California State Parks – Division of Boating and Waterways
  - Operating budget very low (budget cut in half)
  - USFWS has approved treatment for site that were previously denied due to Delta Smelt
  - Working on bubble curtains and other technology

- Moving away from contact herbicides and moving to systemics to increase efficacy
- Optimal temps for treatments, so continuing treating FAV
- Delta Protection Commission
  - Working to see how they can support DBW on invasive species program to assist with funding
  - It may be a bit early for Delta Week announcements (it is last week of September, annually), but so people can think about what they might highlight, here's Senate Concurrent Resolution 119 link:
    - [leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220SCR119](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SCR119)
- State Lands Commission, [Marine Invasive Program](#)
  - Will save update for his presentation
- Sacramento County WMA
  - Had contractor come out to treat spongeplant on American River Parkway, but looking to see about systemic treatment instead of contact treatment due to updates during this meeting
    - Die out over the winter, less to treat
  - Interested in the CISAC early detection/rapid response funding, solicitation planned to open early 2024
- UC Davis, Cooperative Extension
  - Working closely with CISAC
- USFWS
  - New funding for nutria
  - Large scale loach in SJR a few years ago in Chowchilla and San Luis Wildlife Refuge Area. Working on an eDNA study and trapping. 139 positive eDNA sites, and 77 had physical detections. Caught 657 loaches.
  - Loaches have also been found in federal pumping plant in Tracy. A variety of species exist, looking into how they were introduced and running genetics. Loaches are very tolerant, so concerns about getting into the Delta (e.g., salmon predation).
    - Question about loaches at SWP- Skinner FF – pending
    - [Salvage Export Chart](#)
- Contra costa Ag Commissioner
  - Working on staffing
  - Delayed invasive species work due to rain, but have been able to get out a few weeks late

## Nutria Update - Gina

- PPT attached to follow-up email to DIISCT and available upon request to Gina D.
  - Trend is in the right direction
  - 2019 is when program really got going, most individuals caught and full effort in 2020 (1239 individuals)
  - Trend has been going down since 2020 with sustained effort.
  - As of June 2023, only 150 individuals caught this year, this is good news and indicates they are on their way to eradication.
  - No more individuals were caught on Sherman island, but the hypothesis is that individuals dispersed downstream to Grizzly Island
  - Detection dogs from Chesapeake Bay are effective, returning end of Sep/early Oct to test in Grizzly Island – SSJDC funding this
  - Dogs can help ensure eradication more effectively than traps/cameras
  - DWR funded:
    - eDNA and eRNA detections occurring through DWR (sherlock)
    - Evaluating genetic diversity and effective population size
      - Worldwide bank allows us to determine where nutria came from and hopefully prevent further

## Invasive Species Horizon Scan Update – Heidi H.– presentation available upon request

- Horizon scanning
  - Allows us to ID species may be coming next
  - EDRR framework – used in conjunction with USGS Organisms in Trade to develop watch lists
  - Objective: identify aquatic species that are at risk of arriving in a target region
  - 3 phases: scope definition, species list generation, risk screening
  - Geo boundaries – primarily political boundaries and watershed lines, California and Nevada
  - Taxonomic scope: aquatic inverts (snails), carp, ludwigia, vallisaria
  - Determine risk and prioritize
    - 6 species were determined high risk
      - Silver carp, bighead carp, giant ramshorn snail, Mexican primrose, false mussel, common river snail
    - 38 were uncertain
  - [YouTube link for presentation](#)

State Lands Commission update – Jonathan Thompson – presentation available upon request  
<https://www.slc.ca.gov/misp/>

- Nonindigenous species – marine invasive species program (state lands, SWRCB, CDFW OSPR, CDTFA)
  - Focused on 2 vectors from ships: ballast water and biofouling
  - Biofouling: anything growing on the vessel or individuals associated with the community (unattached). Ships tend to clean the hull, so their focus is the niche areas (nooks and crannies)
  - Ballast water: used for trim and stability of ships, load at source port when cargo is empty, discharge water at receiving port when they pickup a cargo load
  - 2006 – ballast discharge water performance standards were created
  - 2007 – authority for ballast water
  - About 10,000 vessels per year come into CA
  - Program has developed regulations, performance standards, and does enforcement
    - Ballast water management options: exchange outside of exchange, treatment (disinfectant like chlorine/ozone/UV), combination treatment + exchange
    - Federal standards for # of organisms per volume of water
  - Sampling occurs on ships – filter water through a net down in ship hold area – this is not compliance sampling, it is still pilot to determine best methods. Ballast water sampling is relatively new

California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) update

- PPT attached to follow-up email to DIISCT and available upon request to Rachel W.
- Received \$5M, allocated by CISAC and approved by ISCC
- Almost received \$5M more for an RFP, but didn't get allocated in time and was taken back by Dept of Finance, and partners are working to get that funding back.
- Working to create an EDRR Fund
- Currently funded Projects from original \$5M in various stages of implementation:
  - Invasive Species Summit hosted at Capitol
  - Invasive Species Tours (North, Central/Delta, and SoCal)
  - CISAC operational funding
  - Living list and pathway prioritization (on CISAC website)
  - Invasive shot hole borer projects
  - *Volutaria* project in Borrego Springs
  - Statewide AIS Surveys
  - Yellow starthistle biocontrol
  - PlantRight project
  - *Caulerpa prolifera* project in Newport Bay

### Symposium update

- Lightning vs posters: support for lightning talks due to awkwardness of posters/too cumbersome. General consensus that lightning talks are okay.

### Wrap-up, Next Meeting, and Action Items

- Thanks, all, for participating!!!
- Next DIISC Team Meeting is Nov 14, 10am-noon
- Action Items:
  - Keep an eye out for save-the-date and solicitation for the symposium
  - Review notes and send out final
  - Volunteers for “intro to program” updates at next and future DIISCT meetings
  - Speakers to make presentations available