

VIEPC SPRING MEETING

4-20-2017, 1pm-3:30pm, Annex, Berlin

Attendees: Mike Bald (Got Weeds?), Kathy Decker (FPR), Mary Beth Deller (Forest Service) , Bob Popp (F&W), Katie Kain, USFWS

Topics of Discussion:

- 1. Membership**
- 2. Co-chairship**
- 3. Schedule for year, any planning needed for mtg in Rochester**
- 4. Follow up on previous worksheets**
- 5. Review completed worksheets—Stick to time limit for presenting to leave time for discussion**
- 6. Other**
- 7. Potential agenda items for next meeting**

1. Membership (5 minutes- 1:05pm)

T. Alexander

M. Bald

**A. Bove

N. Carr

K. Decker

MB. Deller

*G. Kozlowski

L. Lapierre

R. Paul

B. Popp

J. Rosovsky

T. Schmalz

E. Spinney

Emilie, Steve, Kyle, and DiGi are just interested in staying abreast of our doings.

New additions, Anthony Slowik (USDA PPQ), and Lindsay Modesto (USDA PPQ), Katherine Kaine (biologist with US F&WS)

*Gwen Kozlowski is working on finding representation for UVM Extension to replace her.

**We received an email from Ann Bove reflecting her departure from an official, state role on the committee. However, she had requested to be a member of the committee as a member of the general public. All present agreed that this was a good idea and would like to accept that change in membership status.

2. Update on Co-Chairship (5 minutes- 1:10pm)

-Leadership Structure-

Staggered 2 year terms, co-chair who will serve 2 years, and the last meeting this year we will pick a replacement for Elizabeth who will have served 2 years (staggered)

Current Co-Chair Terms:

COMPLETED: Kathy Decker- Jan 2016-Dec 2016 (selected replacement at Oct. '16 meeting)

ONGOING:

Elizabeth Spinney- Jan 2016- Dec 2017 (will select replacement at last meeting in 2017)

Mary Beth Deller- Jan 2017- Dec 2018 (will select replacement at last meeting in 2018)

We discussed the terms above. A question was raised about Elizabeth continuing on as co- chair. Kathy mentioned that she and Rose had been co-chair for a number of years prior to initiating the 2 year terms. **We should clarify whether we are looking for rotation or if a co-chair can be reappointed.**

3. Schedule for rest of year- (5 minutes- 1:15pm)

November 9th, 2017, 10am-12noon, Rochester NF Office, afternoon for field trip for those interested. This meeting/field trip is still scheduled to take place. The site visit is to a knotweed infestation that is difficult to control.

4. Follow up on previous worksheets (20 minutes- 1:35pm)

*Petasites worksheet (updated and on FTP)-- We looked at the updated document. **Recommended to add to watch list**; group agreed.

*Mike was to connect with contacts in CT and MA about their take on European Spindle tree-- This plant does not appear to be on the radar of other states, NH, MA and CT do not have anything on this plant.

*Hardy kiwi update from Judy, Mike will add information from MA--- there appears to be permaculture resistance to recognizing this as an invasive.

5. Worksheets

Format of discussion-- turn in worksheets ahead of time for review, then worksheet creator gives 5-10 minutes summary of species, have hard copies, projected worksheets, keep to timeframe.

We worked directly off the ftp site to review worksheets.

*brief update on mugwort- MaryBeth Deller (**10 minutes- 1:45pm**)-- **worksheet is not complete**, receiving new reports regularly, will continue to format and add information to worksheet, for potential review in November.

*wild parsnip- Rose Paul (**5 minute intro, 25 minute discussion- 2:15pm**)-- We read Rose' email; "I would not recommend it for the quarantine list for 3 reasons: it is so prevalent; it is in anthropogenic habitats—not unmanaged habitats; and it would probably confuse the seed trade. " The group agreed; **it will be added to the watch list.**

Discussed ways to make the general public more aware of the toxicity and impact this and other plants have. Public service announcement; signage through municipalities? **An item to discuss at another meeting.**

*Garden valerian- Bob Popp (**5 minute intro, 25 minute discussion- 2:45pm**)--- reviewed; **recommended for watch list**, group agreed.

*Water soldier, water wheel, Water hyacinth- Ann Bove (**2:45-3:20pm**) Water soldier: reviewed; **recommend to add to quarantine for list A.** Water wheel: **needs revisit** Water hyacinth: reviewed, **recommended for quarantine list A.**

6. Potential Other Business

No objections or changes were brought for the minutes from October 2016, so Elizabeth will consider them complete and will post them on VTinvasives.org.

Group discussed disposal of material. This topic is an issue because landfills will no longer be taking yard waste from individuals, however they will accept it from haulers. Folks thought that looking toward Solid Waste Division in DEC might help us address this increased concern. **This should be a topic for the group to discuss.**

notes added after meeting:

From Mary Beth—

Green Mountain Compost is set up to handle noxious weed debris:

<https://www.greenmountaincompost.com/free-drop-off-composting/leaf-drop-off/>

From Elizabeth—

I have been working since last year with DEC Waste Management to formally come out with guidelines for landowners on how to properly dispose of NNIP material. This stalled when the person left and someone else took the position. I have reconnected and am still pushing for this guidance to be completed and published. In the meantime, folks can advise others to try to solarize non-woody material in black plastic bags on site, and to talk with their local composting facilities to see if they can handle noxious weed materials. This online map from DEC is also supposed to help folks connect with an organics composter near them:

<http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/Organics/default.html>

8. POTENTIAL AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING (3:20pm-3:30pm)

Potential topics of discussion:

*new infestations of *Ficaria verna* being discovered; what to do with no EDRR network established

*Although we did not formally set an agenda topics for next time could include:

*Decide on consecutive terms for co-chair

*Review of worksheets, there are a couple outstanding

*Discuss how we move plants forward for quarantine consideration by Agency of Ag

*Disposal of invasive material given new laws and requirements for haulers and landfills

*disposal of vegetative materials---new law and options for folks to dispose of invasive plant waste

*Important topic: EDRR Network---Should we set aside a whole meeting to discuss this?

Do we think we can start to tackle a Vermont EDRR Network with the next meeting and meetings in 2018?

--Do we have the capacity to address this topic?

--define EDRR

--Kathy, give overview of Forest Pest Resource Plan as an example

--there are also great examples from AIS (Ann)

--brainstorm, ideas for allies for Vermont Network

* Contaminated construction material disposal discussion

*Tree-of-Heaven- Folks are becoming more aware of this species in the state, and are asking what kind of response do we take? Do we have an answer for them? Do we have recommendations for a town or Conservation Commission that is potentially working with a private landowner?

**Same question, but with Giant Hogweed (not on our lists).

*Callery Pear research

Action Items:

Reminder: FTP access from web browser (for viewing), file explorer (for editing)

--Other Business--

EVERYONE---- Mark your calendars for next meeting: November 9th, 2017, 10am-12noon, Rochester NF Office

EVERYONE--- at next meeting, need to clarify how to move forward with recommendations for water soldier and water hyacinth.

Mary Beth - to take lead on facilities for next meeting

Mary Beth - to finish mugwort worksheet

Ann - need to clarify position on Water wheel

Elizabeth - to update watch list with: wild parsnip, garden valerian.