

SuAsCo CISMA
Minutes from Steering Committee Meeting
Held 1/12/2010

Present:	Rebecca Chizzo	SWEET
	Libby Herland	USFWS
	Jeff Collins	Mass Audubon Society
	Eileen McGourty	USFWS
	Amber Carr	USFWS
	Lynn Knight	Carlisle Conservation Commission
	Russ Hopping	The Trustees of Reservations
	Ted Elliman	The New England Wild Flower Society
	Freddie Gillespie	Southborough Open Land Foundation/ Sudbury River Watershed Organization
	M. John Dwyer	Maynard conservation commission
	Rick Findlay	Littleton Conservation Trust
	Wendy Sisson	Harvard Conservation Commission
	Anna Wilkins	Lincoln Conservation Commission
	Gordon Shaw	Concord Land Conservation Trust
	Victoria Parsons	Town of Sudbury
	Lee Steppacher	NPS/River Stewardship Council
	Frank Lyons	Hop Brook Protection Association
	Lin Bradford	Wayland surface water quality
	Jean Bradford	Wayland surface water quality
	Laura Mattei	Sudbury Valley Trustees

New Partner:

Russ Hopping from TTOR spoke about their organization as a whole and what they were hoping to gain from the CISMA partnership. They are currently working on their Old Manse property in

partnership with the town of Concord and the NPS. They hope to go beyond their boundaries and start to think about issues on a larger landscape level. They also hope to learn from this partnership and be able to establish another CISMA in the western part of the state.

Announcements:

Duties of coordinator:

Jeff will be stepping down from acting as CISMA's coordinator. Amber is now acting as interim coordinator.

Please send hours spent on CISMA tasks (outside of meetings) to Amber when prompted. Amber will try to figure out if there is a way to post hours on Google group. Southborough has hundreds of hours for removal projects. Can we use these hours as matches? We want to be able to see hours and ongoing projects in watershed- updated every couple of months.

Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker's Program:

The CISMA is now an official participant of this program. The information packet is being looked over by the ED/Outreach subcommittee to create education materials for partners to distribute.

Logo:

Lee- Sent around possible logo ideas. She is working with a graphic designer to create a logo for the group. Not sure if we should have words or no words. Should we spell out CISMA or SuAsCo? We decided CISMA might be least known.

New group:

Laura announced that Brian Donahue from Brandeis University wants to create a regional "Wildlands and Woodlands" program. Preserving lands in MA- balancing preservation and active management in Metrowest region of MA. Meeting January 29th- brainstorm ideas for group purpose/ duties.

Grant opportunity:

Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm has proposed to map invasives at the sanctuary with support from an Intel grant program. CISMA may be able to use GPS mapping units (10-12) when Drumlin is done. Jeff would like to propose an extension of this work with the Sudbury Foundation. Jeff will write grant with the support of CISMA.

Time away:

Laura will be away mid February- April

2009 Accomplishments

Signed MOU- May 1 2009- 23 members

1st draft of strategic management plan

Established 4 subcommittees (Admin, ed/outreach, ED/RR, Control)

Developed scope of responsibility for each subcommittee

RSC grant- distributed funds to SWEET and SVT

Submitted NFWF grant- should hear back in spring

RSC grants:

SVT purple loosestrife project update:

Faye school, Marlborough high school, Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School are potential beetle ranchers

70 acres of release sites total – some sites not suitable need to narrow it down

Orientation meeting Feb 11th

SWEET:

John looked over SWEET docs- some errors. We need to establish CISMA standards for documents. Could have a “Funded by CISMA” statement along with our logo and web address. May need to spell out SuAsCo or CISMA to clarify.

Next year:

Lee announced that we should target RSC money towards handout/ flier development/ creation in 2010

SVT desert mapping area:

Town of Sudbury; City of Marlborough; State forest; SVT; Women's Federation; USFWS- already mapped

14 volunteers mapped along trails and other disturbance areas within the Desert. Will finish mapping in 2010. The preliminary report can be found on SVT's website. Betty Wright will be generating a botanical inventory/ plant list for the area.

CISMA Strategic Management Plan:

Exhibit E- Priority areas of map still up for debate. Map will be posted online for comments/ feedback. Need to include description of how priority areas were determined so it will not affect funding for certain towns. Need to add disclaimer that priority areas are for CISMA group only was suggested and possibly will change over time. Need to include main stem of river in map for core areas. Wendy suggested adding Delaney state land to priority areas- might engage state participation. Will try to reach out to public/ organizations in all of our designated priority areas.

Exhibit F-Frank Lyons suggested adding Elodea as a target species. Need to add disclaimer "all ED species are high priority species". Need to clarify last set of species. A disclaimer about the need to eradicate/ not eradicate needs to be added. Eradication would depend on quality core habitat where these species would be targeted for control instead of being overlooked.

Annual Priority Actions:

Amber will generate a short list of priority actions when she attends each subcommittee meetings. Nyanza funding should be included in priority actions.

Google groups:

Ideally this will become our communication interface. Amber will look into creating a calendar of subcommittee meetings/ steering committee meetings, trainings etc that will be accessible to entire group. Will also eventually post equipment sharing list and map of invasives for entire watershed? on Google groups.

Amber will contact Matt to create another Google group for all CISMA participants (one for steering committee and one for all participants)

Subcommittee updates:

Admin subcommittee-

Needs to define officer descriptions- finalize scope of work

Ed/outreach-

Should work on a template for press releases.

Next meeting was scheduled for March 2nd 2010 from 1-3

Minutes submitted on 2/4/10 by Victoria Parsons with edits from Amber