

CISMA Steering Committee  
July 9, 2019

Attendees:

John Dwyer (Town of Maynard)  
Amber Carr (MAS)  
Linh Phu (USFWS)  
Stacy Carter (Town of Lincoln)  
Emma Coates (Town of Lincoln)  
Kristin O'Brien (SVT)  
Sarah Bursky (NPS)  
Delia Kaye (Town of Concord)  
Kathy Sferra (Town of Stow)  
Ryan Brown (Town of Wayland)

Amber Carr:

- Biocontrol of Japanese Knotweed is being researched by USDA. Public comment period has ended, and testing is soon to begin on various sites. MIPAG and MAS submitted letters of support for the psyllid biocontrol. No timeline for release as of yet
- MassRivers offering to host a discussion about the state invasives coordinator bill, SVT will attend

Sarah Bursky

- Riverfest 2019 had the largest attendance so far
- Ron Chick led a water chestnut pull in Framingham
- Peter Alden led an invasives walk
- Consider doing a CISMA themed event in the future

RSC Update

- SWEET – still waiting on a full report about use of grant funds. SWEET has four interns helping at the pollinator garden this summer. Still struggling with black swallowwort removal. Collected record number of garlic mustard bags during annual pull
- Town of Wayland – acre of restoration at Cow Common is being managed manually. Had to buy more deer fencing for trees due to recent browsing
- \$1000 available for CISMA website, \$700 left for additional changes. Education subcommittee to consider other uses for this money
- Grant reports due at end of July/early August

Aquatics Subcommittee

- USFWS may not be able to lend their harvester to the Town to remove water chestnut on Sudbury's ponds. The town had two employees trained to operate the harvester but was not able to commit to actually running the harvester this year.
- Lincoln, Concord and CLCT to coordinate efforts to harvest water chestnut on Fairhaven Bay and the Sudbury River
- Wayland considering an aquatic herbicide for their ponds

Permitting Subcommittee

- DEP still waiting on City of Boston to move forward on a general permit for invasives control
- Subcommittee to reconvene soon

#### Early Detection and Control Subcommittee

- Subcommittee to reconvene soon and discuss projects
- May work with education subcommittee on educational materials for landscapers

#### Administrative Subcommittee

- Discussed grant opportunities to consider, came up with project ideas
  - Are You For the Birds? Vouchers for landowners to plant native plants and remove invasives. Possibly include training for landscapers
  - Treat invasives around rare species habitat
- Consider looking at Farm Bill grant program to fund larger invasive species control projects. Farmers can be reimbursed for controlling invasives on their farms
- Kristin may follow up with EDC workshop attendees and visit their project sites to offer advice and assistance

#### EDDMaps

- UMASS Amherst and Climate Change Center will be using EDDMAPs to predict how invasive species will be impacted by climate change
- EDDMAPs is used to consider whether a species is invasive or not (eg wall lettuce)
- Another training would be helpful considering this new information

#### Grant Opportunities

- NPS may have some grant opportunities coming up, USFWS will keep an eye out
- Subcommittees should meet and prepare a list of projects in case grant opportunities come up

Next subcommittee meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of September 1-3PM.

Fall meeting: November 12<sup>th</sup> at Great Meadows NWR (Weir Hill)