

Minnesota Statewide AIS Advisory Committee (SAISAC)

April 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

MN DNR Office, Sauk Rapids, MN

Members Present: Jim Boettcher, Norman Baer, Justine Dauphinais, James Johnson, Paul Hamilton, John Deurr, Chris DuBose, Tera Guetter, Donovan Strong, Mary Alverson, Kelsey Wenner (by phone)

Members Absent: Jaime Jost, Barb Halbakken Fischburg, Eric Johnson, Roger Imdieke

Ex-officio Members Present: Doug Jensen, Nick Phelps

Ex-officio Members Absent: Amy McGovern, Nicole Lalum

DNR Staff Present: Heidi Wolf, Phil Hunsicker, Tina Wolbers

Guests: Dan Larkin, Chelsey Blanke, Julia Bohnen – University of Minnesota AIS Research Center

Chair J. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Motion to approve agenda (with addition to review two drafted letters) by C. DuBose and second by J. Deurr.

Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2019 by J. Dauphinais and second by N. Baer. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting Summary:

- The Committee received an update on legislative bills that include AIS funding to support the DNR, Minnesota AIS Research Center (MAISRC) and invasive aquatic plant management (IAPM) grants. There is now a House Omnibus bill and a Senate Omnibus bill. The House Omnibus bill included more funding for AIS work.
- The Committee discussed their current sub-committee structure and whether or not it was meeting their needs. Committee decides to maintain the legislative and research sub-committees, but the communications/education issues should be handled ad hoc as needed. Committee members will use Basecamp to sign up for a sub-committee and to have discussions.
- The Committee learned about non-native Phragmites in Minnesota – its history and future management options.
- The Committee discussed summer field trip ideas. There was interest in viewing non-native Phragmites sites in the Metro Area, the use of weevils as a biological control of Eurasian watermilfoil on Christmas Lake, and checking out a CD3 waterless cleaning station on Lake Minnetonka.

Motions & Actionable Items:

- **C. DuBose** made a motion, and **N. Baer** seconded to approve draft letters written to local government units (LGUs) and boat manufacturers in Minnesota. Committee unanimously approved. **J. Johnson** will send the letter to LGUs that have watercraft inspection programs to encourage them to require their inspectors to clean up/rake up vegetation at public accesses so plants are not caught on boats/trailers and are therefore equipment is easier to clean and prevents the spread. **J. Johnson** will send the letter written by **J. Deurr** to watercraft manufacturers in Minnesota (list provided by **J. Deurr**) to ask them to consider boat design recommendations spelled out in the T32 document.
- **P. Hamilton** makes a motion, and **D. Strong** seconds to have **J. Johnson** draft a letter from the Advisory Committee to the legislative conference committee once it is formed. The letter will encourage adequate funding from the legislature to support the DNR Invasive Species Program, MAISRC, and IAPM grants.
- **C. DuBose** will write a letter to the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee in support of reclassifying non-native Phragmites as “Prohibited Control” in MN instead of “Restricted.” The Committee will review and approve before the letter is sent.

Review of Drafted Letters

J. Johnson asks if everyone had the chance to review both drafted letters posted on Basecamp. One letter to be sent to local governments that have inspection programs, telling them the importance of having their inspectors rake aquatic plants at boat launches. One letter drafted by **J. Deurr** to be sent to watercraft manufacturers in Minnesota about the T32 document and boat design in consideration of AIS prevention. **T. Guetter** asks if **J. Deurr** could talk on MPR about this effort. **J. Deurr** says it happened when it first started. Could do it again. News outlets are always looking for stories, just contact them. Members discussed who would be best to send the letters. **J. Johnson** will send both. **C. DuBose** makes a motion and **N. Baer** seconds to approve both letters and have **J. Johnson** send them.

Committee Member Updates

For this and future meetings, members were asked to only share updates directly relevant to the Committee’s roles and responsibilities.

- **N. Baer** received an email about controlling flowering rush. **T. Guetter** says their issue is drainage problems, which doesn’t really apply to Minnesota. Our issue is for lakes and the approach is not to cut them because that just spreads it, so instead use chemicals and/or careful hand removal. The email was a marketing tool. It would be helpful to learn about the plant, just as we are about to learn more about non-native Phragmites. Add to meeting list for fall. Ryan Wersal and **T. Guetter** can talk about their adaptive management work.
- **T. Guetter** contracted with Ryan Wersal to develop a “readiness response plan” for selected species. He suggested Eurasian watermilfoil, starry stonewort, Hydrilla, etc. that are not in the area. They held stakeholder meetings with lake associations and city to talk about goals of current management as well as the response plan. Similar to plan from Basset Creek. They let the associations know what to expect if a new species is found, such as it may take a week to get it listed, so it was helpful to set those expectations as well.
- **C. DuBose** says the county is hiring inspectors. Non-native Phragmites is a big thing in their area. A presentation yesterday. Brought a map display to show locations in the Chisago Lakes area. Not a prohibited status in the state. Thinking about listing it as prohibited in the county, but a lot of the non-native Phragmites

is on county roads and the county would be responsible. Puts funding pressure on the county and not sure if they are ready for it.

Committee member updates continued

- **M. Alverson** has no update.
- **P. Hamilton** attended Cass County civic governance meeting for the first time. He is helping facilitate the pilot milfoil weevil project up there. One issue he sees is that many of the members are snowbirds, not able to attend meetings. He reviewed the Pine River One Watershed One Plan and it looks helpful for their lake. Working with Jeff Forester on science standards and how to imbed AIS and water issues in there. Retired Hamline professor helping by writing a grant in Hennepin County. Hamline group just identified AIS as a top priority. They will work to bring the standards and Hamline's work together and try out in Hennepin County. Hamline knows to take stuff to scale. He shares an example of a math teacher demonstrating exponential growth using Eurasian watermilfoil. **J. Johnson** asks if there is anything this group can do to help. **P. Hamilton** says it would be helpful to have a website where teachers can go to get easy access to data. He shares another example of applying statistical analysis using lake data. Looking to work with math and art teachers. Aesthetic value of lakes is an important topic too.
- **D. Strong** says St. Louis County is getting stuff together and many organizations are going to use the same staffing agency for hiring inspectors, to bring uniformity to the program. **J. Johnson** asks if many counties do that. **P. Hunsicker** says some counties with large inspection programs use staffing agencies to free up administrative time of county coordinators. **D. Strong** says the past few years it has been a little rough getting quality staff.
- **J. Deurr** has no update.
- **J. Boettcher** says Carver County is hiring inspectors. Goldfish in Chaska chain of lakes. Many of them have lost their color, which according to experts takes a few years, so they have been there for a while. The county is looking into how to address it. Hazeltine golf course says they won't do water level manipulation, especially with an important tournament coming up. Homeowner approval is another thing needed for any actions. Drew Dickhart, Carver County AIS coordinator, was on the news and used an underwater drone to find the goldfish and there were thousands. Lots of movement. First thing is to educate people. **J. Johnson** has seen people rearing goldfish in stormwater ponds. **D. Jensen** had a pond with a similar issue, formed a partnership with a few organizations. They developed a plan and did a drawdown and rotenone treatment. It also included a strong communications effort. **T. Guetter** asks, if these are in stormwater ponds, aren't they stirring up the phosphorus?
- **J. Dauphinais** has encountered goldfish while looking for carp. Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District did a draw down and freezing, which took two years. Goldfish can hybridize with carp. In the Coon Creek Watershed District, Crooked and Ham lakes have hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil, and both used ProcellaCOR last year and they will use it again this year. For Fish Lake in Maple Grove, they have a contract with Three Rivers Park District to do inspections and just received the 2018 data. They had 1.5 inspections per hour, which is busy. They had a low 1.5% violation rate.
- **J. Johnson** went to a hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil meeting with Ray Newman and Ryan Thum from Montana State University. They are collecting and doing detailed genetic testing down to genotype. Different genotypes have different resistance to different herbicides. Hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil could be another future meeting topic for this group.

- **J. Dauphinais** adds that Ham Lake's hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil is a unique genotype that researchers are collecting and studying.

Committee member updates continued

- **D. Jensen** is hiring interns to do outreach at various events. He is providing technical assistance to revise the St. Louis County AIS Plan. Michael Scharenbroich with St. Louis County is resigning from his position May 1. St. Louis County just released grants for a variety of projects. Helping plan the May 14 and 15 Great Lakes Panel meeting. Coast Guard will be talking about vessel incident discharge act. Presenting at the Beltrami County advanced watercraft inspector training. Habitattitude Surrender and Auction this weekend and take back rehome event Tuesday at UMD. Educating 1,500 6th graders at River Quest. He is co-hosting a crayfish boil at Bent Brewstillery on May 25th. They again will use rusty crayfish collected from Lake County last year. Great Lakes Landing blitz, getting people to do watercraft education. Coordinating staffing of booths at 16 Fleet Farm stores for Kids Fishing Days. Another crayfish boil potentially at Bent Paddle Brewery Aug 3.
- **N. Phelps** says they are wrapping up lab work and gearing up for fieldwork. They are transitioning between ending projects and starting new ones in July. Long Lake Regional Park "Whoosh" carp cannon is taking out hundreds of fish daily. Zebra mussel control project on Lake Minnetonka in St. Albans Bay using low dose EarthTec QZ. The idea is to kill veligers as well as do significant studies on non-target impacts. Jim Luoma is heading that up, from USGS lab in La Crosse with help from campus student – Angelique Dahlberg. **N. Baer** asks about the economic impact study. **N. Phelps** says it is going through the review process and he is optimistic about it.
- **K. Wenner** (phone) they started spearing and netting season. Implementing decon. They found Eurasian watermilfoil on a net and caught it, so she is glad they are out there.

DNR Updates

H. Wolf provides the DNR legislative update.

- Senate File 2314, Omnibus bill, (section 15.14) included no surcharge increase and reduced appropriation from general fund by \$1 million each year. Also included is \$510,000 going to MAISRC, with \$100,000 dedicated to establishing a statewide surveillance and early detection system for AIS – H. Wolf read some of the text, all language is included below for reference:

\$510,000 the first year and \$510,000 the second year are from the heritage enhancement account in the game and fish fund for grants to the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center at the University of Minnesota to prioritize, support, and develop research-based solutions that can reduce the effects of aquatic invasive species in Minnesota by preventing spread, controlling populations, and managing ecosystems and to advance knowledge to inspire action by others. Of the first year amount, \$100,000 is to develop, in conjunction with the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, counties, and other stakeholders, recommendations for establishing a statewide surveillance and early detection system for aquatic invasive species. By March 1, 2020, the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center must submit a report and recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources policy and finance. The report must include recommendations on all of the following: (1) the most effective structure for a statewide surveillance and early detection system for aquatic invasive species; (2) whether to employ eco-epidemiological models, optimized decision models, or related tools as a mechanism for determining how best to deploy limited resources; (3) how the statewide system should be funded and at what levels; and (4) regulatory, policy, and statutory changes that would be needed to fully implement the statewide system.

- House File 2209 omnibus bill (section 18.10), included a \$20 AIS surcharge with the same general fund appropriation. From the surcharge increase, \$500,000 would be dedicated to invasive aquatic plant management grants. \$1 million goes to MAISRC. **D. Jensen** asks how the grants are distributed. **H. Wolf** says DNR has done different things in the past. Usually DNR wants to give money to as many groups as possible, typically funding part of their work. Finding balance. DNR has asked this group for advice in the past. The old grant webpage still says how the last one was done. **T. Guetter** says it is an easy process and the online form is easy. **H. Wolf** says DNR does require the group gets a permit to treat before applying for grant.
- **T. Guetter** asks about the early detection study, what is the background on that? **N. Phelps** says he presented to the Senate natural resources policy committee and a part of it was an update of the risk modeling. Then the senate council drafted the language and asked if MAISRC would be interested. **N. Phelps** says there are pros and cons when the legislature cherry-picks single research items versus funding the Center for all of its work.
- **H. Wolf** provides an update on the Wright County Regional Inspection Program (WRIP). Wright County asked for a meeting. They met with Senator Anderson, DNR Commissioner Strommen, Assistant Commissioner Bob Meier, and **H. Wolf**, three county commissioners, staff from the SWCD, and the Wright County Coalition of Lakes. The DNR expressed concerns about the submitted plan and letters were written back and forth. The most recent letter went out on April 5, stating Commissioner Strommen is not going to allow them to expand the pilot to six more lakes nor include two proposed exemptions. One exemption from the county ordinance was the “self-certification training” (going to class allows them to skip the station) and another was the “storage certification program” exemption (allows lake service providers to install something if it has been out of the water 21 days without going to the station). Essentially, they wrote an exemption that would be illegal based on current state laws. All these changes make it difficult to evaluate the program. The DNR also identified gaps, for instance issues with receipt reuse, lack of clear data on costs, etc. **H. Wolf** talked with the SWCD recently, who are great partners. The SWCD is thinking they would go back to at-the-access inspections. However, yesterday the legislature added this in the Senate omnibus bill: *“Sec. 162. WRIGHT REGIONAL WATER-RELATED EQUIPMENT INSPECTION PROGRAM. By July 1, 2019, the Department of Natural Resources shall approve the expansion of the Wright County regional inspection pilot program to include nine lakes.”*
- **J. Dauphinais** asks if there is a timeline on the omnibus bills. **J. Boettcher** says the House is voting on it next week. He talked with his representatives and they didn’t know about the Wright County addition. It was passed at 2am as something to protect Wright County lakes. Chat boards. People are going to the capitol tomorrow. **N. Phelps** says the challenge with the omnibus bill is that the good and the bad are in there together. Line item vetoes are complicated. House and Senate must conference to come up with one bill on which they both agree to pass along to the governor.
- **H. Wolf** adds there is an AIS advisory committee for the WRIP that includes the SWCD, DNR, lake associations and one boater.
- **T. Guetter** asks about the carp bill. **H. Wolf** has not heard about anything recently.

Review of the April Committee Meeting Action Items

- Adam Doll’s handouts and presentation were posted on Basecamp or shared via email.
- **T. Wolbers** will continue to look into a boat decontamination sign icon.
- Two letters were drafted and approved this meeting.

- If members are interested in using the secret boater form, please contact Adam Doll. You will need to review both of the manuals and talk with Adam. Contact **J. Johnson** if you are interested, then we can set up call so everyone interested can be trained in all at once.
- CD3 and T32 reports were posted on Basecamp.
- **T. Guetter** asks what does this group think about the CD3 stations? **J. Johnson** asks, did you read the reports? They say the boat ramp redesign and the unit increases self-inspection. Can use the data to inform inspections/programs. **J. Dauphinais** adds that the Three Rivers Park District report showed people used it more when inspectors were not present. **J. Johnson** adds that is because after an inspection you don't need to use it. **J. Dauphinais** says it also shows that people are cleaning their boats without someone telling them to. Behavior change.
- **J. Johnson** asks if we would also send the T32 letter to boat vendors. Maybe if the manufactures don't respond? Any idea on how we might know? **J. Deurr** says next year at boat show time, we will know. New design year models should be done by now.
- **D. Jensen** asks about the "anglers, AIS and access" meeting that was postponed. What was the purpose? **H. Wolf** says it was an open space format to discuss AIS, Angling and Access to MN waters. The Commissioner's office wasn't ready for it and we don't have an update on it right now. April Rust who is organizing it, will contact members when she knows more. **T. Wolbers** reminds the Committee that this was one of their priorities and they are the "host" of the meeting.
- Is there anything this group can do to help DNR at the legislature right now? **N. Phelps** says they will announce the representatives that will be on the conference committee; talk to those people. **H. Wolf** says this Committee has and can write letters. **N. Baer** says he and everyone else should contact their representatives.
- **J. Johnson** asks about timeline for bills. **J. Boettcher** says the House is voting Monday. Conference committee hasn't be formed yet.

Discussion about Current Sub-Committee Structure

J. Johnson asks, what role do the sub-committees play? Should they be formalized and if so, how? **D. Strong** says in the past they were used for specific tasks. **T. Guetter** says in the past they were looking at things that were early adoption for DNR, like online training and things that needed to be tweaked. Reference the work plan and specific issues in the specific categories. How can we best serve the DNR and the Commissioner? **J. Johnson** asks, did the sub-committee come back to the group or take action on their own? They came back to the whole group for review/approval. **T. Guetter** says to be careful, you can't just have a personal opinion when representing the group. **J. Johnson** asks, are we missing them? Is it a gap or is it addressed during the whole group discussion? **T. Guetter** says in the past MAISRC didn't exist, so they advocated to create it. **J. Johnson** says a legislative subcommittee would be really helpful. Another one is communication/education that we have a lot of priorities that haven't gotten a foothold and not really high on our list. **J. Dauphinais** says right now they are too broad to be useful. Sub-committee for a specific task is more helpful. **N. Phelps** says for MAISRC it can be a two-way street – MAISRC keeps the Committee up to date, and the Committee can tell him what they are interested in. Value of the sub-committee is to distill down information for easier digestion by the group as a whole, along with proposed action items. **D. Strong** says when he first started he was interested in lake service provider and inspection information. And now those things are in place. We are all here for different reasons. Bring your expertise here. **P. Hamilton** suggests the research and legislative be permanent and others be ad-hoc. **J. Johnson**

cautions that for the communications/education priorities, if no one is championing it, nothing gets done. **T. Guetter** says to ask **H. Wolf**, what are the communication gaps? Group could be the sounding board. **H. Wolf** says the community-based social marketing work is the big one right now. She also echoes that sub-committee tasks should be specific and actionable items. For example the legislative sub-committee can be “on watch” and notifying the group as needed. **D. Jensen** says they are dealing with the same thing for the Great Lakes Panel, which has three committees. Identifies priorities or gaps. **P. Hamilton** mentions common signage and that if someone “takes point,” they can keep it moving forward. Communication/education seems to best be completed ad hoc or as needed. **T. Wolbers** suggests the Committee develop a list of ongoing communications or other topics, because some of these things are ongoing. Maybe a guidance document. **P. Hamilton** asked Cass County how many lakeshore properties there are, to get an idea of the amount of equipment like docks and lifts that might be present. **T. Guetter** references Phragmites as an example, what are the top things to get accomplished? **D. Strong** reminds the group that they can typically tackle 5 to 8 topics max. We need to prioritize, because we only have 8 meetings a year. **T. Wolbers** says typically in August the Committee starts prepping for legislative session in 2020. Guidance document could include list of important dates/timeframes. **J. Johnson** says we need people to volunteer. **T. Guetter** mentions the field trips. **T. Wolbers** will re-post sub-committee message strings on Basecamp. There should be a lead person for each sub-committee. **J. Boettcher, D. Strong, and C. DuBose** will be on the legislative sub-committee. **J. Johnson, J. Dauphinais, and P. Hamilton** will be on the research sub-committee. Others are welcome to join if interested.

Additional DNR legislative updates

H. Wolf reads another excerpt from the Senate Omnibus Bill about MAISRC. **N. Phelps** clarifies this is continuation/additional funding for an LCCMR project from MAISRC. Section 50.20 of the Senate Omnibus Bill: *“(a) Building Knowledge and Capacity to Solve AIS Problems \$3,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to support the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center in developing solutions to Minnesota’s aquatic invasive species problems through research, control, prevention, outreach, and early detection of existing and emerging aquatic invasive species threats. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.”*

For the funding issues, would a letter help? Funding for MAISRC, DNR surcharge and funds to lake groups. **T. Guetter** says to include a sentence that they aren’t really asking for more money, it is to increase it to equal spending dollars today since it hasn’t been increased in 20 years. **H. Wolf** says the language is in the House file. **P. Hamilton** heard that two-thirds of it would go to resolve the budget deficit and to grants. Focus on the conference committee, the most strategic. **N. Phelps** will send update when representatives are appointed to the conference committee.

P. Hamilton makes a motion and **D. Strong** seconds to have **J. Johnson** draft, get member review, and send a letter to the legislative conference committee once it is formed.

Non-Native Phragmites

Speakers: Dan Larkin, Chelsey Blanke, and Julia Bohnen from the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) at the University of Minnesota.

- They received a grant from MAISRC 1.5 years ago to do this research.
- Introduction: tall, perennial wet season grass found all over the world.
- 20 years ago found hidden invasion – native and European genotypes. Looked at old herbarium samples.
- European strain has spread west from the east coast beginning in 1910.
- Hybridization. Same species, different genotypes.
- Spread by diverse means. Rhizomes, stolons, fragments, seeds. 10 years ago discovered seed reproduction. Long thought it was insignificant. Seed is now known to be a major driver of spread.
- Disturbances promote spread – roads, ditches, altered hydrology. Increased seed production because of genetic diversity and elevated nutrients (nitrogen).
- Invasiveness depends on site fertility and genetic diversity.
- Status in WI – explosion over last 20 years. In western WI, prohibited, in east, restricted.
- Fast, dense growth. “Ecosystem engineer.” Terrestrialization process.
- Impacts to invertebrates, fish habitat, wetland bird habitat, and alters food webs.
- Research done in 2017-2019 in Minnesota.
- What is the distribution in Minnesota? Used crowdsourcing, targeted searches, and EDDMapS.
- Produced identification guide – www.mnphrag.org
- Morphological and genetic identification.
- Participant identification is 95% accurate compared to genetic testing. People more likely to misidentify native for invasive.
- 390 populations in 39 counties across MN. High concentrations in the Metro Area.
- Diversity of habitats: lakeshore, roadsides, and wetlands.
- Patches are small – 75% are less than ¼ acre; half are less than 1000 square feet. Possible to knock out these sizes. Good news. In other states, these patches are larger and more established.
- Seed production in Minnesota: greater further south in the state. Is this because of shorter growing season? Larger populations? More populations?
- Most populations are small and many have low seed set.
- Strong correlation with wastewater treatment facilities and its spread. 17 facilities use non-native Phragmites. This out of 280 facilities statewide. Used for dewatering, acting as straws to pull water out. Vendor of the original plants introduced said there was no risk of escape, so people used it thinking there would be no problems.
- They need to transition to a different technology, which could be expensive.
- What are response needs? Working to build knowledge and support effective response. Forthcoming assessment. Working closely with DNR, MPCA, etc. to look at question of “Now what?”
- Now is the time to act. Window of opportunity. Landscape scale and regional approach. Will require coordination among agencies and using sound, sustained and careful control efforts.
- Conversion of wastewater treatment facilities seed beds. Are there alternative plants that can replace the non-native Phragmites? Looking at possibilities.
- How are wastewater operators responding? Receptive. Seeing this coming for a while. Transition will have to take place over multiple years.

Non-native Phragmites presentation and discussion continued

- How did Wisconsin deal with the wastewater treatment folks? Can we learn from that? Not allowing any new use of this plant, but also not forcing treatment plants to convert to something else.
- In the meantime, can you cut seed heads? Need BMPs.
- Removing solid waste from treatment plants and applying to agricultural fields. Are they also moving seeds? Need BMPs for this process. Concerns about this method, especially if the field is near a stream or body of water.
- Non-native Phragmites is under review as a noxious weed in Minnesota. Could become prohibited, which means they have to remove/treat. Do entities have the money to remove it if it becomes prohibited?
- Can pass beyond the point where control is effective and affordable. Treatment may do more harm than good.
- Common reed is the common name of non-native Phragmites.
- There is a lot of variability in robustness of non-native Phragmites.
- Non-native Phragmites can replace/overwhelm cattails.
- Can non-native Phragmites displace wild rice? Big concern. Has the potential, especially with fluctuations of water levels.
- Terrestrialization process. Turns wetland into meadow. See major loss of diversity. Impacts local wildlife.
- Aquatic or terrestrial? On both lists, along with cattails. Permitting can be very different. If aquatic, you need a permit. Looking to develop management plan through DNR. Applied for GLRI funding for this. Applicators would have to be very well-trained. Might be other sources of money – EPA.
- DNR, MDA, MPCA have been having discussions, which has been helpful.
- Observation of non-native Phragmites around storm ponds. Is this in the seed mix? Could also be contaminated equipment such as mowers?
- The Committee wants to be informed as the process moves forward. Increase awareness when it comes up.
- Current control regimen is the same, until we learn something different.
- Intended audience for management plan? Treatment plants, cities (stormwater ponds). Plan should specifically talk to cities about their stormwater ponds and that treatment now will allow your ponds to function longer.
- Biocontrol options: Weevil? May eat native Phragmites, as well. Two possible beetles.
- Should this be a prohibited noxious weed in Minnesota? Petition to Noxious Weed Advisory Committee by MAISRC. Review the list of noxious weeds every three years. Committee can write letter of support for prohibited status. Should the Committee send letters to DNR and to Noxious Weed Advisory Committee? **C. Dubose** can draft a letter of support to the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. MAISRC's petition was to review status of the plant. Being reviewed now and will be acted upon in September. Restricted, Prohibited Control or Prohibited Eradicate. Prohibited Control would make the most sense, if changed.
- Should it be on DNR's prohibited invasive species list?
- Suggestion to give treatment plants window of say 10 years to make the change. In meantime, control the spread.
- Wastewater treatment plants are only 17 out of 400 sites identified for non-native Phragmites in MN. Are other groups fighting this, even though treatment plant operators are willing to work with authorities, but they need options (affordable)?
- **C. DuBose** made motion to draft letter. Second by **N. Baer**. **C. DuBose** will write the letter. Committee will review.

Summer Field Trip Ideas

- Phragmites tour with Dan Larkin in the Metro Area. Could look as **J. Dauphinais'** control area. August is good time to view. **J. Dauphinais** can coordinate with Dan and Julia. Will post speaker's contact info on Basecamp. Can see variety of sites.
- Starry stonewort on Medicine Lake. Keegan Lund of the DNR can possibly contribute.
- MAISRC's Lake Minnetonka treatments of zebra mussel veligers and impacts of treatments on other species.
- Status of Christmas Lake weevil project. **P. Hamilton** will check on availability.
- Flowering Rush on Lake Minnetonka.
- CD3 demonstration on Lake Minnetonka.

Review of Action Items

- Send out two letters that were approved.
- Summer field trip to view Phragmites, milfoil weevil, and CD3 station if time.
- **C. Dubose** will write letter of support for Phragmites reclassification as Prohibited Control.
- Reestablish sub-committees on Basecamp.
- Suggestions for August topic of discussion:
 - Flowering Rush by **T. Guetter** with Ryan Wersal
 - Input on DNR programs (CBSM, others like pending legislative outcomes)
 - Talk about legislative topics for 2020.
 - Counties performing AIS prevention at highest level – look at top 5 or bring in county reps to talk about what they are doing.
 - Need meeting with Wendy Crowell once per year to discuss treatments with applicators, lake associations, etc. What is working well? Any changes on the horizon? Diquat situation? Specialist will work with Area Fisheries Specialist if there is a walleye issue.
 - Next meeting in August should concentrate on legislative agenda. Still looking at Commissioner attending a future meeting.
 - Future meeting on Communication/Education. CBSM will be done by fall. Can talk about that.
 - **D. Jensen's** GLRI project.
 - MAISRC Showcase on September 18th.
 - Latest on starry stonewort.

Adjournment at 2:45 p.m.

Next meeting to be held at the MN DNR St. Paul Central Office, 10:00AM-3:00PM, August 22, 2019.