

## MEETING MINUTES

<b>Meeting/ Project Name:</b>	<b>Montana Invasive Species Council</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	April 10, 2019	<b>Time:</b>	10 am - 4 pm
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>	Kate Wilson	<b>Location:</b>	Great Falls (Cargill)
<b>1. Attendees</b>			
<p>MISC Voting Members: Bryce Christiaens (Missoula County Weed District – Chair), Amy Gannon (DNRC), Bob Cloninger (MDT), Leigh Greenwood (TNC), Tom Woolf (FWP), Steve Wanderaas (CDs), Bruce Anderson (private landowner), Kim Mangold (MDA), Joe Demontiney (Chippewa Cree Tribe), Dennis Longknife (Fort Belknap), Jan Stoddard (Dept. of Commerce), Bruce Anderson (private landowner), Amy Gannon (DNRC), Leigh Greenwood (TNC), Steve Tyrell (Agriculture)</p> <p>MISC Members Phone: Jane Mangold (MSU-Ext.), Alec Underwood (Wildlife), Andy Welch (Hydropower)</p> <p>MISC Federal Partners: Gary Adams (USDA APHIS), Lynn Hurst (CBP), Michelle Cox (USFS), Bill Sparklin (USFWS)</p> <p>Other Attendees: Belle Bergner (NAISMA), Becky Kington (MWCA), Dave Burch (MDA), Stephanie Hester (DNRC, MISC Coordinator), Kate Wilson (DNRC/UC3/FBC), Bryce Maxell (MT Natural Heritage Program), Rachel Frost (Missouri River Council/CEMIST), Craig Guthrie (USDA), Tim Bergstrom (USDA), Gwen Keller (Americorps), Ken Siroky (Fergus Co landowner), David Robinson (USDA Mollusk Specialist), Joey Esilva (USDA), Meg Rabbe (USDA-APHIS), Jenny Birdsall (MSU), Jeff Littlefield (MSU), Patricia Wherley (MDA), Jasmine Reimer (MDA), Ian Foley (MDA), Keith Horton (Cargill)</p>			
<b>2. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues</b>			
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>		
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>  Bryce Christiaens and Keith Horton	<p>Chair Bryce Christiaens called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Round robin introductions and roll call</li> <li>Quorum confirmed.</li> </ul> <p>(Action items are in red)</p> <p>Keith Horton (Cargill) – largest privately-owned company in the world/US. 150,000 employees, speak 65 languages. 2017 – 150 years as company. Family owned. Great Falls Division is ‘specialties.’ Canada, Australia and US. Specialty canola oil – mostly in Canada. Biggest customer is McDonalds (used all over US). BASF partnered with Cargill on canola delivery – aquaculture (fish farming). Booming salmon industry – most of world’s supply will come from farms by 2050. Omega 3 connection – not in hatchery/farmed fish (have to add as supplement). Fish farming has a two-year turnaround timeline.</p>		
<b>Administrative Business</b>  Bryce Christiaens and Stephanie Hester	<p><b><u>Action Item: NAISMA conference hosting (jointly with MISC)</u></b></p> <p>Belle Bergner, Executive Director, North American Invasive Species Management Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Belle joined via teleconference to provide an overview of NAISMA</li> <li>NAISMA plans to have its 2020 conference in Montana</li> <li>Impressed with MISC’s work and would like to partner on the conference--can shine spotlight on some of the great leadership that is happening in states and provinces</li> <li>NAISMA flexible on format and logistics. Typically, 3 - 3.5 days for conference plus field trip day.</li> <li>Would ask to work closely with MISC on putting agenda together jointly with NAISMA board. MISC members would ideally serve on planning committee, help solicit sponsors, and ideas for field trips.</li> <li>Variable attendance 180 – 720 depending on location and partner connections. Likely 300 in New York this fall – ‘connecting science to action’ theme based on partner priorities.</li> </ul>		

- NAISMA looking at Lodge at Whitefish as potential location – will work well for Canadians. Speakers from Glacier and Flathead.
- Have some dates on hold at Whitefish Lodge (350 capacity) and Firebrand Hotel. First or second week in October are on hold. NAISMA board members excited about prospect and potential for field trips up to Glacier.

**Motion:** Steve Tyrrel motioned to partner with NAISMA and pursue 2020 conference. Joe Demontiney seconded.

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

Stephanie, Tom Woolf, Kate Wilson, and Jan Stoddard volunteered to assist with planning efforts.

**Action Item: January 23, 2019 meeting minutes.**

Action items all completed or in progress. E&O Committee working with Jan on Tourism Conference (Butte) and visitor center packets. End of April, early May for packets to vendors.

Steve W: Question about Gail Whiteman's representation on MISC (Crow vs INCA). Stephanie: The last we heard from Gail was that she needed more time to think over representation and INCA intern potential. **Motion** (Steve W) to approve minutes. Leigh G (2<sup>nd</sup>). No discussion or public comment. All in favor. *Motion passes.*

**Motion:** Steve Wanderaas motioned to approve Minutes as presented. Leigh Greenwood seconded.

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

**Action Item: Year-end budget allocations (handout)**

- MISC allocated \$95k for biennium
- June 30 is end of fiscal year and 2019 biennium
- Current budget status:
  - Travel: allocated \$20,000 to travel (\$4,000 remaining) – will likely be taken to zero with this meeting.
  - Law review, 2019 Invasive Species Summit and listening sessions: allocated \$32,000 (\$5600 remaining – needs to be reallocated).
  - Science Advisory Panel – eDNA \$8,000 (\$12,000 remaining).
  - Education & outreach: Includes Windfall materials, website, as well as partnerships with invasive species campaigns. Allocated \$18,000 (\$9,308 remaining). This is a low considering all of the line items that come out of this budget.
  - Regional tabletop - \$5,000 allocated. Not needed.
  - Available: \$10,600. Stephanie recommendation to put into education & outreach (which includes Windfall contract).

**Motion:** Steve Wanderaas motioned to allocate remaining funds to Education and Outreach line item and have committee identify priorities for spending. Jan Stoddard seconded.

**Discussion:** E&O Recommendations: Invasive species costumes (great for events, outreach) – feral hog, zebra mussel. Advertise jointly with Noxious Weed Education Campaign (split costs for hunting/fishing publications). Invasive species K-8 curriculum materials (reprinting) – add all taxa information.

Jane Mangold: Weed wheel and curriculum – grade schools seem to really enjoy materials. Matches with core curriculum.

**Vote:** All in favor, motion passes.

	<p><b>Action Item: MISC AIS Committee Discussion</b></p> <p>Tom Woolf is exploring ideas to create an AIS working group/committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Struggling with AIS Program in some capacities – program has had some issues in the past, tripled overnight based on 2016 detection. FWP is clearly lead (through statute, MOU, etc.), but there is still confusion. Requesting help to take AIS program to next level. Not sure if most appropriate to create formal subcommittee through MISC, or more informally. Reaching out for guidance and thoughts on way to move forward.</li> <li>• Jane M: Who would you want to help you with this? Tom: Defining what program does and how we do it. Funding still isn't clear coming out of the session.</li> <li>• Gary: If you did it independently, what value does it add for you (e.g. better if MISC brings more to table)? Tom: Mission of MISC to coordinate invasive species activities and build capacity, but if FWP took charge, would perhaps lend to more clarity on leadership role. Would really be about how we communicate it moving forward.</li> <li>• Steve T: MISC members pretty experienced with AIS – but are there others that are not on MISC that should be included? Committees can have external representatives. If interested stakeholders can join, you may have more credence by separating from agency (FWP). Value of being under MISC but having some independence from agency may be an asset.</li> <li>• Amy G: Forestry Division model – steering committees assist with program planning and prioritization.</li> <li>• Jane M: MDA has advisory committees based on stakeholder/producer needs. There may be some financial obligations for FWP as lead agency (for steering committee).</li> <li>• Tom W: Have to create forum for more focused discussion to take place.</li> <li>• Dave B: Where is FWP management on issue? Probably okay if you lead it Tom.</li> <li>• Bryce: Beneficial to come through MISC, number of partners can step up once prioritized. Enhances coordination.</li> <li>• Amy G: If you decide you do want to pursue this, is there a way for us to formalize quickly? Or is the next meeting ok?</li> <li>• Tom: Next meeting is fine – can investigate structure in the meantime.</li> <li>• Steve T: I would like to express my support to have a MISC committee dedicated to AIS.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION: Follow up as action item next meeting.</b></p>
<p><b>Gastropods Presentation</b></p> <p>David Robinson USDA APHIS National Malacology Laboratory, Academy of Natural Sciences</p>	<p><b>David provided a presentation on gastropods (snails and slugs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PowerPoint Presentation posted on MISC website, meeting archives</li> <li>• mollusks often not considered to be a huge risk but can be very concerning.</li> <li>• Helicoidea native to Europe/northern Asia – present serious agricultural pest.</li> <li>• Routinely smuggled in baggage and transported as hitchhikers. Intentional introductions due to food items (escargot) and pets.</li> <li>• No one industry affected – many impacts. Brown garden snail example costs \$7-10 million in California alone – population exploding across the country.</li> <li>• Helicoidea and Geomitridae (Mediterranean basin) – immense numbers of snails can interfere with cultivation of crops, as well as harvest. Staggering reproductivity of snails. Cows will not eat hay once snail leaves slime. White snail most commonly intercepted – major issue in Australia. South Carolina example – napalm and gasoline treatment in the 1950s. <i>Cernuella virgata</i> and <i>Theba pisana</i> – both 'white snails,' and <i>Cernuella virgata</i> is most similar to the snail found recently here in Montana. South Australia: Many farmers selling or abandoning farms due to major impact they have had on crops.</li> <li>• Eastern heath snail – Two infestations since 2001 in North America. One of them is in Belt, MT (<i>Xerolenta obvia</i>). From SE Europe (Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey). First population established in rail yards in Detroit (ICS initiated). While early efforts were aggressive, it has dropped in priority level so is continuing to</li> </ul>

	<p>spread. Can take decades to realize impacts to agriculture. Pest determined by behavior, not food source (e.g. not necessarily plant eaters, but <i>X. obvia</i> is phytophagous). These species have not been linked to Rat lungworm (yet).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montana is 3<sup>rd</sup> most important state in US for wheat production. Heath snail detected August 2012 (ICS initiated). Delimitation surveys have taken place. If snails move into adjacent wheat or lentil crops, will have serious impacts. Also pose large threats to canola fields. Molluscicides considered as last resort due to effects on native snails and livestock. Controlled burns taking place in Australia.</li> <li>• Steve T: Recommendations on management options and limiting spread? David: Control options in river environment is very difficult. Metaldehyde an option being considered. Needs to be some public education about moving equipment from the area (contain population). Farmers need to know they can easily spread snails from one field to another. Mud in Belt Creek has a lot of babies and smaller snails that you can't see. Rails and vehicles seem to be the most likely source of spread (snails climb up into rail cars and vehicle wheel hubs).</li> <li>• In Montana, USDA APHIS and MDA would have joint responsibility to respond/manage. Gary: Use dogs to sniff out snails (especially in grain). Kim M: Potential impacts associated with quarantine (markets could choose not to import Montana grain). Gary A: USDA APHIS does conduct extensive grasshopper surveys – staff are cross-trained to look for snails. Ian F: Detection survey funded annually – 3 infestations in Belt area, 1 in Great Falls. Native snails do NOT crawl on plants unlike the Eastern heath snail</li> <li>• Eastern heath snail tour scheduled for April 11</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Updates</b>  Bryce, Dave, Tom, Kate	<p>HB142 (modernizes definition of 'management' in Weed Act, replaces 'chemicals' with 'herbicides,' 'eradication' instead of 'enforcement'). Passed</p> <p>HB 411: AIS funding mechanisms – prevention pass for angler (\$2/\$7.50), fee for boat registration in state (size dependent), fee for non-resident boats (\$60), hydropower fee, bed tax. Passed House, passed committee, but executive action needed in Senate Natural Resources Committee.</p> <p>HB 608: mandatory decontamination of wakeboard/ski boats. Would require all ballast boats to be decontaminated when entering the state or crossing the continental divide (to west).</p> <p>HJ 17: Joint resolution on federal funding for aquatic invasive species.</p> <p>SB 257: Upper Columbia Conservation Commission (UC<sup>3</sup>) membership</p>
<b>Diorhabda Presentation - Salt cedar Biocontrol Agent</b>  Alex Gaffke PH.D. Ecology and Environmental Sciences, MSU	<p>Alex provided a presentation on the history of salt cedar invasion in Montana, as well as the Northern Tamarisk Beetle (<i>Diorhabda</i>), which is a promising biocontrol for control of salt cedar. Interstate movement of the beetle was terminated in 2010 due to its impacts on the willow flycatcher bird</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salt cedar in MT classified as '2b' on noxious weed list. 62,168 acres known. First detected in 1960s, major infestations confined to waterways. Can survive drought periods, adaptable. Despite being- present since 1960s, big water year of 2011 caused major establishment of salt cedar in the state. Currently established at Fort Peck Reservoir, Musselshell River, Yellowstone River, Powder River, Bighorn River. Eastern Montana known to be 'highly suitable.' Develop way to contain to current areas and prevent from getting to 'prairie potholes' region.</li> <li>• Control can be difficult, biocontrol likely one of best options. Northern Tamarisk Beetle (<i>Diorhabda carinulata</i>). Beetle is widespread in most western states (OR, ID, WY, UT, CO), but not Montana. Spring – adults emerge early June after overwintering in soil. Crawl onto plant, lay eggs. After 3 larvae stages, pupate, emerge in July. Reproductive cycle would happen again by August. 'Boom and</li> </ul>

	<p>bust' biocontrol agent that has a lot of potential. Concern with interactions with southwestern Willow Flycatcher bird – loss of nesting sites due to salt cedar invasion, nesting now occurs in salt cedar (listed as critical habitat). To avoid beetle damage to nesting areas, limited geographic areas and physiology (safeguards). In 2007, some beetles were intentionally moved (without permit) into critical habitat of bird (200 km barrier).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All interstate movement of beetles (biocontrol) terminated in 2010 by USDA APHIS after consultation with USFWS and completion of Biological Assessment proposing termination. 2013 Center for Biological Diversity lawsuit against USDA APHIS (5 cases of action). 2016 ruling – partially in favor, partially against (USDA violated Endangered Species Act by failing to adopt mitigation plan for termination of program). 2018 Environmental Assessment proposed alternatives: no action or establishment of a conservation program (riparian restoration, beetle surveys, GIS habitat mapping, education, watershed partnerships, invasive weed control, streamlined permitting process, funding sources). 2018 Pest Risk Analysis – logistical control method was mechanical removal of salt cedar. Lawsuit now resolved.</li> <li>• Flycatcher habitat primarily south of Colorado. Salt cedar areas are 'protected critical habitat' for flycatcher in specific geographic areas. USDA APHIS discourages any further intrastate movement. Montana doesn't have the flycatcher, but we have salt cedar. Not enough beetles occurring in Montana for control, and unable to get additional beetles with current situation. Montana has suitable habitat in southwestern Montana for beetles (and not for flycatcher).</li> <li>• There has been substantial work on rearing and releasing beetles in Montana with populations that have naturally dispersed from Wyoming but have not seen much success in establishment. Beetle releases in Montana failed 2001-2009 (water levels, flooding, other issues); 2015 WY beetles naturally dispersed in MT (MSU collected to assist with rearing). Natural populations in Carbon County and on the Crow Indian Reservation along the Bighorn River (present but not a resource that can really be utilized at this point). 2016 and 2017 releases – not enough beetles to establish. 2019 project funded again through the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund to continue project.</li> <li>• Interest in requesting permit for interstate movement since Montana poses no risk to willow flycatcher. Process includes a 526 permit and completed work plan.</li> <li>• Consensus that it's worth the effort to pursue process.</li> </ul> <p>Action: Set up meeting to figure out leadership on moving forward (work plan, partners, outcomes, process, challenges, etc.)</p>
<p><b>MISC Project Updates</b></p>	<p><b><u>Mogulones crucifer Science Advisory Panel</u></b>  <b>Topic:</b> Scoping the potential for approval of <i>Mogulones crucifer</i> for classical biological control of houndstongue in the U.S.</p> <p><b>Draft Purpose:</b> To evaluate the feasibility of gaining approval to release <i>Mogulones crucifer</i> for biological control of houndstongue in the U.S. by reviewing information available subsequent to its approval for release as a biological control agent in Canada; identify USDA APHIS and USFWS ecological criteria that will be used to determine the safety of releasing <i>M. crucifer</i> as a biological control agent in the U.S.; and provide input and guidance to managers if the organism is encountered in the field.</p> <p><b>Draft Expected Panel Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review results of studies assessing the host specificity and possible nontarget impacts of <i>Mogulones crucifer</i> conducted after the original petition for release was</li> </ul>

	<p>evaluated, to determine if new information has the potential to adequately address historic reservations regarding the safety of releasing <i>M. crucifer</i> in the U.S.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine if information that became available subsequent to the review of the original petition to release is substantive enough to trigger changes to <i>Mogulones crucifer</i>'s current pest status.</li> <li>• Identify relevant knowledge gaps and probable challenges associated with the approval for <i>Mogulones crucifer</i> as a biological control agent in the U.S., and to identify information/efforts that would address those gaps and challenges.</li> <li>• Provide next steps to be taken by researchers, regulators and managers regarding the status of <i>Mogulones crucifer</i>.</li> <li>• Provide input and guidance to managers of private and governmental lands on interacting with <i>Mogulones crucifer</i> if it is encountered in the field.</li> </ul> <p>Panel topics include: pest alert issue, what a petition would look like, research on impacts, levels of spillover/unintended consequences can be tolerated, and management implications. Questionnaire went out to panelists to solicit feedback/opinions about key topics. Panel workshop April 30-May 1 at Chico Hot Springs.</p> <p><b><u>Invasive Species List Committee &amp; Act Committee</u></b></p> <p>Scoping document developed and sent out to MISC members. Those interested in regulatory authority (tribal and local government, legislators, interested stakeholders should participate in process. Have entire year to explore options and develop recommendations for a spring 2020 work session/listing session to share with larger stakeholder group and gather input. Recommendations could potentially become a bill for next legislative session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List Committee: Develop recommendations for listing criteria for all taxa species list for state. Currently have noxious weeds, prohibited species, aquatic invasive species, noxious seeds, etc. Number of lists and processes that exist, but all structured differently. Start with species of highest concern.</li> <li>• Potential outcomes: Act that provides the flexibility for local entities to work on invasive species issues or partner with state agencies to manage. Provide means for conservation districts and weed districts to work more effectively together. Listing committee addressing things not currently regulated by the state – not trying to redo what's been done. Listing processes and structure.</li> <li>• Discussion about the scope of the committees and associated outcomes.</li> <li>• Purpose is to clear up confusion that exists (identified during law review) about why there are so many lists, who has authority for what, gaps in certain species not fitting on a list, etc.</li> <li>• Would want to adopt existing processes as a model for how to better address other taxa than noxious weeds. There's a lot of unknowns that we could address through taking a broader approach – how do we deal with invasive species down the road that we don't even know about yet? Make a process now that makes sense for the future.</li> <li>• Consensus to compile document that explains all the various listing authorities and processes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> Leigh Greenwood motioned to develop a 'list review process' committee in order to figure out how to create a list of species, agencies that regulate them, and the gaps that are not represented by list/agencies. Steve Tyrrel seconded.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> Identify what authorities exist currently and where the gaps lie. Look at lists that currently exist and 'flow' of who does what. FWP committed to aquatic invasive plants (at 2019 Summit).</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> All in favor, motion passes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose of Act Committee: To develop recommendations that consolidate existing statutes into single Act and/or identifying gaps/challenges/issues associated with</li> </ul>
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	<p>existing statute and/or implementation. Look at regulatory options, how to incorporate other stakeholders (counties, conservation districts, weed districts).</p> <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaps include compliance procedure in weed law, missing statutes/rules such as 'pull the plug,' pathways, firewood, fee structure/penalties, etc.</li> <li>• Summit with breakout sessions – would be a good place to vet potential recommendations.</li> <li>• MDA plans legislation changes around priorities/demands of constituents. There should be a connection about how the identified gaps are affecting producers.</li> <li>• Many of these issues brought up by constituents (not by agency staff).</li> <li>• Focus on process of improvement instead of focusing on problems.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> Steve Wanderaas motioned to establish a committee to make recommendations to address invasive species issues/gaps associated with existing statute or implementation. Steve Tyrrel seconded.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> none</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> All in favor, motion passes.</p>
<p><b>Committee Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Data Management Committee</b> - Bryce Maxell: Have added 11,541 structured surveys for AIS and noxious weeds. Includes over 4,000 for heath snail. 64,105 structured surveys in existence now. 38 data sources added to Montana Natural Heritage Program database (pull observations from). Working on bringing Peter Rice's 'Invader Database' into program now as well. Web tools developed including mussel story map, digitized marinas/docks/infrastructure (now doing on state wide basis – probably available in May). Met yesterday on developing an irrigation layer for Montana (economic analysis, rapid response, etc.). May be able to 'borrow' from statewide wetland mapping network, developing cost estimate for that work. Risk maps developed for 36 state-listed noxious weeds (1A-2B), model for heath snail as well. 'How to' guides for database and website in the works. 40 species identified with Schutter diagnostics lab – ran by MDA and DNRC for feedback. Adding all. 13/14 earthworms are non-native.</p> <p><b>Education &amp; Outreach</b> – Kate Wilson: 1) Invasive Species Awareness Event is scheduled for April 23 in the Capitol Rotunda. Kate sent vendor invite two weeks ago with a deadline of Feb 15 to RSVP. Will work with E&amp;O Committee to organize activities, etc. Corn hole boards ordered for forest pests and AIS. 2) Granicus - Invasive Species Bulletin: The state has adopted a new list-serve platform called Granicus/Gov Delivery. It is planned to launch in mid-April. This new platform will enable the Invasive Species Bulletin to have a new updated, professional look and feel since the new system includes much more functionality, templates, and tools. 3) Big Sky Watershed Corps– DNRC funded cost-share for BSWC members to assist with AIS education, outreach and monitoring for 2019 season. Liz and Kate coordinated on training March 5-6 in Helena for all BSWC members. 4) Update budget with E&amp;O funds.</p> <p><b>Tree Pest Committee</b> – Stephanie: Still seeking a committee chair. City arborist in Billings interested in taking on role. Next meeting (April 24<sup>th</sup>) in Helena. Add EAB task force concept to agenda</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Amy will bring scoping for EAB task force idea up for discussion</p> <p><b>Invasive Woody Trees Committee</b> – Jasmine: First meeting last week. Audubon Society hosted summit in 2015, three priorities: sharing resources &amp; best practices, mapping &amp; monitoring, education &amp; outreach. Committee wants to focus on education &amp; outreach – will have 'home' on <a href="http://invasivespecies.mt.gov">invasivespecies.mt.gov</a> will have invasive woody tree page. BSWC members can help with creation of page and maintaining over summer. Salt cedar plan</p>



	<p>needs to be updated, but don't have any Russian Olive Plan. <b>Action that came up today: Diorhabda issue – get that permit moving as well.</b></p> <p><b>Firewood</b> – Amy &amp; Leigh: March 20<sup>th</sup> call. Coordination on existing projects. Discussion on deregulation of Emerald Ash Borer. DNRC provided letter to National Plant Board requesting no delisting of EAB. Certified heat treatment discussion as well. Firewood as biomass utilization opportunities to promote (Tom Perry, DNRC). Montana Correctional Enterprise – bundling of local firewood. Governor's Initiative 'Forest in Focus 2.0' tie in. Western Plant Board meeting in San Diego – firewood will be a large discussion item (deregulation). August meeting of National Plant Board (Kalispell). Great opportunities for MT to speak up on national issue of firewood. Don't Move Firewood outreach materials will be included in tourism packets that Jan is distributing throughout Montana.</p>
<b>Wrap-up Public Comment Adjourn</b>	<p><b>Agency and partners updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gary: National Plant Pest &amp; Disease Awareness Month (April) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ACTION: Stephanie to send out link for more information</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>Michelle: Northern Region 'weed free fire sites' pilot program. Preference list for landowners who get trained and certified.</li> <li>Dave B: Petitioned for listing: ventenata. Priority 2A (counties can regulate as they see fit). There will be public meetings. Should be on list by July.</li> <li>Amy G: March 19<sup>th</sup> World Taxonomists Day at DNRC – great attendance and recommended event for every year.</li> <li>Kim: Dave is retiring next month, Jasmine taking over.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ken Siroky- Interested in education part of this – doing it with schools/kids is where it starts. Committee should put together a comprehensive program that covers invasive species worldwide down to Montana. A plug-in thing instead of a bunch of handouts. Broader understanding of invasive species – Haiti example: Troops brought cholera into Haiti (an invasive species that kills a lot of people).</li> <li>Kim: Funding was cut by state legislature for curriculum two years ago, so we included invasive species in all programs that Ag Educator provided in schools state-wide.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> Steve Wanderaas motioned to adjourn meeting at 4:05 pm. Amy Gannon seconded.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> All in favor, motion passes.</p>

3. Action Items				
Action		Assigned	Due Date	Status
1	Include MISC AIS committee as action item for next meeting	Stephanie Hester	7/1/19	Complete
2	Set-up meeting to further discuss and develop a plan for applying for a permit and associated paperwork to allow interstate movement of Diorhabda into Montana as a biocontrol agent for salt cedar	Stephanie/Jasmine/Steve Tyrrel, Rachel	6/1/19	In progress. Initial meeting in April.
3	Add EAB task force concept to Tree Pest agenda for 4/24 meeting	Stephanie Hester	4/20/19	Complete
4	Distribute information about National Plant Pest & Disease Awareness month (April)	Stephanie Hester	4/16/19	Complete