

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting/ Project Name:	Montana Invasive Species Council (MISC)		
Date of Meeting:	October 3, 2018	Time:	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Minutes Prepared By:	Kate Wilson	Location:	Phone and DNRC, CM Russell Room
1. Meeting Objective			
Routine business, action item for science advisory committee, and discussion on Missouri River Quarantine and Containment Plan (per HB 622)			
2. Attendees			
<p>Voting Council Members: Bryce Christiaens, Steve Wanderaas, Steve Tyrrel, Leigh Greenwood, Dave Burch (for Kim Mangold), Bob Cloninger (for Mike Miller), Alec Underwood, Dennis Longknife, David Brooks, Liz Lodman (for Tom Woolf), Gail Whiteman</p> <p>Other Participants: Gary Adams, Monica Pokorny, Carmela Romerio, Stephanie Hester, Kim Antonick (FWP), Rachel Frost, Kate Wilson, Jessica Bushnell, Dan McGowan, Director John Tubbs, Jason Smith</p>			
3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues			
Topic	Discussion		
Welcome	<p>Bryce opened the meeting at 10:02. Attendee roll call</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and roll call (phone/person) No quorum at first, but established by 10:44 AM 		
Administrative Business	<p>Minutes (August 21) – need amendments for filling in who made and seconded motions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Wanderaas made motion to approve minutes Mike Miller 2nd on motion to adopt revised budget Steve Wanderaas 2nd on motion to approve partnership agreement for invasive mussels <p>Motion: Approve minutes as amended (Steve Wanderaas). 2nd (Dave Burch). Discussion: none Vote: unanimous approval</p> <p>MISC Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law Review/Listening Sessions (Bryce) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft compendium near completion Summary of listening sessions & online survey Participation at listening sessions was primarily managers and stakeholders in the invasive species world (not as much public) Based listening sessions and survey on same topics as the law review/summit Questions on deliverables of law review – just the compendium. The conversation at the summit and listening sessions will guide where the challenges – Report/summary come out of summit Summit (Kate, Stephanie) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor's Office – welcome video from Gov. Bullock (conflict during same time) Agenda overview – speaker update 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning Committee call tomorrow (10/4) ○ Need volunteers – registration table, name tags, etc. ○ Still have room for some more vendors in the exhibitor/break room. Contact Kate if interested. ○ Gary Adams – APHIS staff can help with event. ○ Kate to send agenda to MISC when speakers confirmed. ○ Reminder to register and room block deadline – Stephanie to send this week. \$50 registration fee - ● Western Governors' Association Workshop (Stephanie) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tom Woolf, Bryce Christiaens, Kate Wilson and Stephanie working with WGA staff on panel speakers, organization and planning ○ Invitations are going out to WY speakers on ventenata – case study ○ Panel on EDRR for new detections – ICS management, whitenose syndrome, ○ Science Advisory Panel – eDNA for mussel detections will be aquatic case study. Invite speakers from panel (that was held last spring in Montana), FWP, Western Regional Panel monitoring team, etc. ○ Limited event – handpicking people to attend at first, may open up registration as it gets closer. MISC invited to attend. ○ Discussing co-hosting a reception on the 14th with WGA (MISC) – reception 5:30 ● Invasivespecies.mt.gov (Kate, Stephanie) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Windfall – contractor designing website, summit materials, etc. Based in Missoula. ○ Overview – landing page for invasive species in Montana (not duplicating efforts or content but directing to partner sites/information and contacts). Will also be home to MISC and UC3 websites. ○ Site map, look/feel, etc. being developed currently. Launch of website will happen in the spring. ○ Will share draft for feedback when concept more finalized
Agency Updates	<p>Central & Eastern Invasive Species - Rachel Frost update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Musselshell Watershed – approached irrigator from Idaho to come ● Tuesday Oct 23 – Montana Watershed Resources Association meeting (Billings) ● Following presentation, visiting with stakeholders and traveling to the Great Falls area to meet with individual irrigators and watershed groups ● Stephanie to follow up with DNRC contacts on getting more MWRA meeting in Billings (agenda, time of presentation) ● Steve W: who attending on behalf of FWP? Liz: Zach Crete attending <p>Upper Columbia Conservation Commission (UC3) - Kate Wilson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Met Sept. 26, 2018 ● Planning to distribute series to assess AIS prevention efforts <p>Bill Sparklin – USFWS (via Stephanie)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early planning stages for bison range (ventenata) ● Dave Burch: MDA – way to coordinate week of WGA/MISC summit. Had tried to plan survey and planning meeting, canceled due to lack of availability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No petitions received (for listing on noxious weed list) – nomination period now closed (Sept 30) ○ WY doing research plots on medusahead & ventenata

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MDA would still like to get survey work done in those areas, so would like to meet with partners in SE Montana. Would be good to get some dialogue going on the topic. <p>Weed Managers Workshop (attended on behalf of Fort Belknap) - Dennis Longknife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well organized and informative. Kudos to organizers.
Science Advisory Panel	<p>Potential for hounds tongue biological control agent (Bryce)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at biocontrol of hounds tongue (<i>mogulones crucifer</i>) • Insect – pest status. Illegal to move around US. • Researcher tracking impacts of release of insect in Canada (has been released there for many years). • Long-term impacts, feeding damage, etc. • Populations showing up in WA, MT, ID (natural migration) • Conversations up to this point have revolved around pest status. Researcher concerned about petitioning technical advisory group (TAG) for release when the agent has a pest status associated with it. • Potential Section 7 consultation concerns (USFWS) • Bring panel together – what information exists, what concerns need to be addressed by TAG, threatened & endangered species impacts, how would pest status change (process), involving USFWS early on to see if we need additional information to satisfy section 7 consultation • US and Canadian researchers and partners interested in topic, would like to see the conversation move forward • Tubbs: Number one invasive that comes into MT and we don't have an answer for it – need to address. Very resistant to most treatments and often in forested areas difficult to apply. Not a good answer to this invasive with current technology, so if biocontrol an option, definitely a need. Demand on other side of equation. • Bryce: With the populations showing up in the state, need to determine where the legal status of the insect is going to lie. Not going to moving insect around on federal lands (even within the same state) until that pest status is cleared. • Kate: Why listed as pest initially? Gary: Organism known to damage plants not intended to target, listed as a pest. Research on non-native organism (when Canada released) on impacts to non-target plants led to listing (concern with spreading from Canada to US). • Bryce: To send info on pest alert and research on low impacts to non-target species (many concerns alleviated from original assessment over time). • Steve T: Herbicide most effective on this plant has impact on non-target/desirable species as well. Would limit these impacts. Unanimous support from terrestrial weed world to better address this threat. • Bryce: Meetings next week being held (Whitefish – in association with the W4-185). Montana Biocontrol Coordination Project holding meeting the day before – this item on that agenda. Have information for researchers on local populations and movement of insect. Bryce to send agenda for meetings (10th at Grouse Mountain Lodge). • Gary: APHIS Permit staff going to be at the meeting – probably have <p>Motion: Set up Science Advisory Panel focused on potential insect/organism for Hounds Tongue control (Steve W). 2nd (Dave Burch).</p> <p>Discussion: none. 'biocontrol agent' suggests already approved organism – avoid using until approved.</p> <p>Vote: unanimous approval</p>

<p>Quarantine & Control Plan (HB 622)</p>	<p>Updates (Bryce & Stephanie – for Tom Woolf)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House Bill 622 (2017 Legislature) tasked FWP with developing a Missouri River Quarantine & Control Plan for MISC • No more detections of invasive mussels • Plan includes all preventative measures at CF and Tiber as a result of detections in 2016 – plan supposed to tighten up the preventive measures associated with both reservoirs. • Has been distributed publicly for comment – has been updated based on feedback from stakeholders and partners. • Not sure of next step – MISC can approve or take more time to approve • Bryce: HB 622 not a MISC product. Stephanie: Not a Council product, but task specifically noted in HB 622. Probably would want to provide to EQC once approved by MISC. • Bryce: Don't see action item at this point. FWP fulfilled that duty in HB 622. Idea/opinion on how to take an action on this? • Steve: Allow folks time to review. If we need to accept it, we can do that at a future meeting. • Dan M: Outsiders perspective – if HB 622 states that just a product to be delivered, my read is that something like that is once you get product, up to MISC to decide what to do with that product. Receive product as a resource – for future engagement. Can MISC use anything in that product to move forward their work as MISC? Look at minutes from HB 622 creation for intent. • Bryce: We can certainly promote items within the plan, but implementation falls to FWP. MISC serves coordinating and supporting role. Think just need to present it to EQC and acknowledge that deliverable has been completed. • Stephanie: HB 622 intent largely around ensuring that plan was developed and put in place. UC3 also weighed in on plan – limiting access to launches with no inspection stations present. • Bryce: Take the time to review and discuss with legislators involved in the process of HB 622 approvals. • Liz: Comments should be returned to Tom before December 31st (Comment Period ends). Probably by December 1st so that he has time to update it.
<p>Wrap up</p>	<p>New business/other updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting packet link for upcoming meetings now posted on MISC website • Dan: Thanks for including MACD in efforts. Looking forward to working closer with MISC for soil and water conservation efforts. • Stephanie: In packets, see additional items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Final 'white paper' on response ○ General Invasive Species Response Plan – first draft. Gaps for species that didn't have a specific response plan. Looking for input on how best to improve it. ACTION ITEM: Provide feedback. <p>Public comment: none</p> <p>Motion: Adjourn meeting (Dave Burch). 2nd (Leigh Greenwood).</p> <p>Discussion: none</p> <p>Vote: unanimous approval</p> <p>Bryce closed the meeting at 11:22 a.m.</p>