MEETING MINUTES

Meeting/ Project Name:	Montana Invasive Species Council				
Date of Meeting:	February 20, 2018 Time: 10-4				
Minutes Prepared By:	Kate Wilson	Location:	Montana State Capital, Helena		

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Steve Wanderaas (Vice-Chair) opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

• Round robin introductions

Stephanie went over agenda and objectives for the day

- Hard copy packet sent out 2 weeks prior to meeting based on Stephanie's review of practices of other boards and commissions. Electronic copies also available.
- SW: Appreciate both hard and electronic copies. Agreement on practice (others). Stephanie can put electronic packet on website as well.

2. Attendees

MISC Voting Members: Dennis Clairmont (CSKT), Dave Burch (MT Dept of Ag), Mike Miller (MT Dept of Transportation), Jan Stoddard (MT Dept of Commerce), Steve Wanderaas (McCone Conservation District), Andy Welch (Northwestern Energy), Tom Woolf (MT Fish Wildlife and Parks), Jane Mangold (MSU),

MISC Federal Partners: Carmela Romerio (BLM)

MISC Federal Partners (phone): Gary Adams (US APHIS), Amy Gannon (NRCS), Bill Sparklin (USFWS),

MISC Members Phone: Leigh Greenwood (The Nature Conservancy), Alec Underwood (National Wildlife Federation), Katie McKeever (DNRC), Amy Gannon (DNRC), Steve Tyrel (Integrated Ag), Gail Whiteman (Crow Tribe), Dennis Longknife (Fort Belnap)

Other Attendees: Carroll Blend (Big Fork – 'curly leaf pondweed & cabin fever'), Stephanie Hester (DNRC), Kate Wilson (DNRC), Bryce Maxwell (Montana Natural Heritage Program), Jed Little (Missoula County Weed District)

3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues

Торіс	Discussion
Jon Steuber, APHIS Wildlife Service – update on feral hogs	 Feral hog update Alberta & Saskatchewan greatest risk – Frenchman Couleee, NE Phillips County, N. Valley County (public reports - 2 landowners) 13.5 hours in flights – no evidence of feral swine in Montana. Best in fresh snow cover. Looked for pigs, tracks and nests – no sign of any pigs (hard for them to hide with snow cover). Also notified Customs & Border Patrol and requested assistance USDA Wildlife Services has funding for feral swine – but only where they are known to exist. Jon was able to get funding quickly for the survey – discretionary pot of money for 'have not' (no known populations) states (such as Montana) Resource and funding available, including pilots/airplanes: 4 contracted, 2 USDA Most likely source of introductions: hunters illegally introducing. Jon believes our greatest threat to Montana will be migration of established populations from western Canada. In SK: most of population are domestic releases Jon has worked on this issue in TX, OK, CA Strong statutes in Montana on feral swine, have ability to respond/eradicate if detected N. Dakota (national grasslands, Turtle Mountain) feral hogs detected, ~ 55 eradicated, none reported since 50-60 miles north of the border: population not under control, but Saskatchewan reports that most of the other populations are being managed (mostly by snow machine in the winter) Doing research on feral hogs in SK – Bill: maps can be made available (Stephanie to disseminate) Different population in AB and SK? Wild boars in domestic production that have been released. Radio collared some to track movement, 450-500# pigs – never seen this large of an animal as a hybrid. Sounds like different species than those in the south. Most of properties in the area have agreements in place already (mostly for coyotes), can easily amend to include feral swine

from headquarters to conduct follow up if needed Fly up in that area for coyote work so keep ey out for pigs too WAOR/ID: "Squeal on Pigs' campaign with app and hotline (suggestion to adopt and become part of the partnership). Kate to look into becoming a campaign partner Steve Wanderaas, Stephanie Hester - Administrative Business Administrative Business Minutes discussion and approval • November 30, 2017 meeting minutes • Motion: Jan S. motioned to approve minutes, Lee G. seconded • Discussion – none • Vote: unanimous approval • January 16, 2018 meeting minutes • Motion: Mike M. motioned to approve minutes, Andy W. seconded • Discussion – none • Vote: unanimous approval Budget for MISC • Provided overview of DNRC funding for MISC & UC3 in packet • Proposal to Executive Council for allocation of \$95K that MISC awarded through 2017 Legislature: includes Noxious Weed Trust Fund (\$8,500) and Western IPM Grant Proposals (\$15,000), as well as \$60k National Invasive Species Council grant (Missouri River Pilot) • Executive Committee reviewed recommends the following budget for Council approval (see proposed budget following minutes) Discussion: Missouri River white paper – who to write? Third party or someone who was part of response? Report on workshop that was held. Invite NISC to review and provide guid		What would be trigger to institute another survey? Another report. Still have some of the funding
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	 Access all meeting archives on MISC website now. Along with membership, committee overviews, and other information. Send any updates or changes to Stephanie
Stephanie Hester, Kate Wilson, ALL – Project and Agency/Organization updates	 Law review project -Kate Wilson Hired UM Law Student – Hallee Kansman Developed work plan and timeline Focus of Invasive Species Summit (fall 2018) Developed letter and list of questions to send to key contacts in each state, federal agency, Tribes and other partners Products/deliverables: summary of current invasive species laws; gap analysis; jurisdictional review (if time). Potential for review to lead into new legislation in the 2019 session. Gaps (known, discussed): Lack of comprehensive list of invasive species for Montana; low penalty for AIS Inspection 'drive bys'/skippers Send email to MISC requesting agency/organization contacts to gather information for the law review – include draft questions (Kate/Bryce) Real estate agent disclosure of invasive species on private properties – include in law review (buyer beware vs. mandatory disclosure)
	 Economic impact study (mussels only) – Kate Wilson MOA still waiting to be signed with UM – Flathead Lake Biological Station Will include state-wide figures including: fisheries, tourism, municipal water use, diversions, industry, property values, etc. Will also be broken down by basin (Missouri, Upper Columbia).
	 Missouri River Pilot Project – Stephanie Hester Jan 29 workshop – sharing of information and get better understanding of partner roles in prevention and management in the Missouri River Basin Focus on non-recreational stakeholders (agriculture, irrigation, industry partners) Ways to augment cooperation and collaboration in prevention, education and response Central & Eastern Montana Mussel Response Team (CEMMRT) created to address gaps in central and eastern Montana after the 2016 detections in Montana Geographic Response Plan: way to augment statewide Rapid Response guidelines
	 Science Advisory eDNA panel – Tom Woolf Approached MISC last meeting on using first Science Advisory Panel for environmental DNA (eDNA) monitoring for early detection of mussels. Issues at Tiber last season (eDNA detections) will work as good case study. Have advisory committee of stakeholders using eDNA in Montana – helped formulate questions to panelists, come up with panelist recommendations, and develop format for panel Secured 5 panelists who come highly recommended. Caren Goldberg (WSU, biggest body of eDNA published work), Jim Darling (EPA – Asian Carp eDNA), Jim Snider (California Fish & Wildlife), Karen Vargas (previous Nevada AIS Coordinator, chair of WRP monitoring committee) and John Amberg (USGS Research Fish Biologist), Robert Bajno (chemist for Fisheries and Oceans Canada) Stephanie going through process to procure panelists, can issue press release soon. Format: eDNA advisory committee questions to go to panelists – provide written responses. Then attend in-person session with Montana practitioners and interested parties. Leah Elwell (ISAN) to compile responses, facilitate meeting and provide summary/report of
	 Tom to send eDNA panel questions to MISC Upper Columbia Conservation Commission – Kate Wilson Met Jan 24 in Kalispell. Passed by-laws and developed four committees: watercraft inspections; education & outreach; early detection & monitoring; response & preparedness Commission discussed concerns with containment efforts at Tiber at length. Unanimous vote to send letter to FWP & DNRC Directors with the following recommendations: Enhance containment at Tiber Reservoir by allowing watercraft operators to ingress/egress only at launches where inspection stations are located and in operation, based on the available budget of FWP to operate stations - can adjust based on angler/boater use Limit the 'Certified Boater Program' to apply only to residents east of the continental divide

	Kate to send meeting date to MISC members (March 14, Missoula)
	Other MISC Lindetee
	 Other MISC Updates AIS meetings still happening? MDOT wetland staff wondering – relevant to permitting, fish
	 AIS meetings still happening? MDOT wetland staff wondering – relevant to permitting, fish passage. Used to be group that met on AIS before MISC was developed.
	 MOU drafted and signed by DNRC, then go to FWP, DoA and MDOT. Request to include MDOT
	Larry Urban (wetlands) in process.
	Agency & Organization Updates
	 MDOA weed petition – for consideration on state noxious weed list. Will close in September 2010 Work group reviews all suggestions and make recommendations to Director.
	2018. Work group reviews all suggestions and make recommendations to Director. Phragmites rooster – sold by Pier One Imports. Shake the bird and seeds come out of
	tail – have planted some of the seeds to see if they're viable. Nursery folks shut down
	sales into Montana. Survey of Pier One stores - confiscated/bought new mascot.
	Contacted by Nebraska, but then by MISC as well. Jane offered to help with viability
	study – have resources and lab at MSU.
	FWP AIS Program
	 Jobs posted for watercraft inspectors, state-wide (help with recruitment!) – all open until filled. Eastern MT has always been a challenge – posted on RV/gypsy websites, have
	already received some applications from those sites
	 March – Blackfeet open early, then CSKT (mid-march), FWP (late march – mid May)
	• Training, passport and electronic tablet (CO data app) to share with partners
	 2017 reports should be finalized and out next week
	 Flathead & CSKT rules: 4 comments, public comment period closed. Moving forward with rules for this second.
	 with rules for this season WRRDA: \$2M to help support watercraft inspections, \$160k requesting for monitoring
	 WRRDA: \$2M to help support watercraft inspections, \$160k requesting for monitoring assistance. BOR and BLM looking at providing some funds as well.
	 Contracting with Garfield County, CSKT, Blackfeet and Missoula County to run stations
	 Education & Outreach: upgraded campaign – out of state, in state, website, passport,
	rack cards, chamois/sponges for inspection stations, ads/videos, resources for partners
	CEMMRT: Broadus trip – met with Conservation District. They thought it would be beneficial to
	have inspection station and may be open to helping out with the effort in the future.
	 Director Tubbs: Firewood issue getting synergy behind it. FWP doing a great job preparing for next season, our staff engaged as well. DNRC paying attention and bringing the resources that
	we have to bear. Keep up the good work.
	• Marias River float scheduled for July 12 – Jim Decarey contact person. Between 80-100 people
	attend, looking for terrestrial weeds but may be able to include more aquatics as well. Follow up
	on event to see if there is ability to partner at event.
Committee Reports	Education & Outreach – Kate Wilson
	 Website (invasivespecies.mt.gov) – landing page Bulletin – request information from members on updates, media, and events
	 Communications Plan/Strategy – inventory of existing and addressing gaps
	 ISAN workshops – feedback on proposed locations. Billings not very far east – consider holding
	at Fort Peck Interpretive Center.
	• AIS – campaign updates: out of state contract, Clean Drain Dry campaign for state, engagement
	of non-recreational stakeholders ('see something, say something,' attached mussel=invasive
	 mussel focus) Discussion: Consolidate efforts on E&O. MISC should have input on approach/direction of
	committee. Suggestion that there be one group or one contact that is the central point person.
	 Need for a unified message.
	Is it effective to have a unifying message? Reaching multiple audiences with multiple
	species? More of landing page under MISC that then directs people out to the more
	specific information that they need.
	 Unified message/direction good, but have everybody doing things on their own – good things. Just need somebody that knows what's going on out there. Make it common
	knowledge. Repeating efforts over and over.
	 Montana Conservation Menu website – landing page that points people towards
	resources on info and grants, etc. Look at as model for landing page website.
	UC3 effort to inventory existing AIS E&O efforts – review messages and existing efforts. Build
	on. Can use this for MISC efforts as well – augment with other taxa.
	Data management - Jed Little (Missoula County Weed District)

 Kick off meeting last week. Discussed anyone working on invasive species mapping/data management. Suggestions: Jasmine – DOA on EDDMAPS, Ian Foley, Taylor Anderson, county weed representative, Jessica with UEWS, FWP Adam Peterson, GYCC, CMP Could use a better way to categorize species – unofficial lists – don't have good list for the entire state of Montana (known gap – will cover in law review process) Need better standards for incorporating data – NAISMA model as possible template Also standards for data submission – lots of variety and quality Update from Bryce Maxwell on MT Natural Heritage Program data management project: nearly ready to roll with website (go live). 3 components of project: Update website to be able to hold data Update species profiles on 22 (AIS) Add as much invasive species data on website as possible Field guide – AIS, noxious weeds, forest pests, ag prests, other exotics, biocontrol species. One-page species accounts – full online account available as well. Summaries of observations. Map viewer website – shows monitoring efforits (structured surveys) as well as detections. Can get tabular information about when survey conducted, how and results. Environmental Summary Report: agency staff can summarize by particular area or species. By county or watershed, can summarize (see page 16-18 of report). MEPA, NEPA use. Used to only focus on species of concern, now will include invasive species, ideally provide for more mitigation on projects being permitted. MISC approval needed on data management committee moving forward with 'unofficial list' of species? (e.g. 'watch list' species that aren't currently listed anywhere.) Discussion: Can website/species descriptions be changed later if we have an official list? Yes. Can people suggest
 MT Natural Heritage website. Add list issue to next agenda to discuss best way to move forward Has there been the regulatory authority linked to the species in the data management
oversight or criteria, need to address for future. Interim process – if we get an infestation of a new species, who is regulatory agency in charge? All of the information
 surveys are being conducted. Show both on public website. 'Exotic' (featured on MNHP site) vs. 'non-native' (MISC uses) Add diagnostic lab results in the database as well
Tree Pest – Katie McKeever (DNRC Forest Pathologist)
Very diverse group – federal, state, university, local
 Strengthening relationships with MSU extension and Master Gardeners (many need volunteer hours, interested & knowledgeable)
 Develop talking points for tree pests – especially if there are changes in rules or ordinances
 Membership as MISC Committee – 'lucrative position,' conduit to bring issues to legislative level
if necessary, higher profile
 Prevention objective: Lynn Hurst (CBP) on labeling products from Canada Biocontrol of Emerald Aph Parar (EAP) and Asian Longhornoid Parata (ALP). Cround parts
 Biocontrol of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB). Ground nests wasting bio control for EAB. Augment surveying efforts.

	Education & outreach: ISAN presentation. Fly-tying with ALB flies, good way to expose to
	invasive species and raise awareness. Brainstormed locations where they can profile some of
	 these messages, campaigns and activities Detection efforts: informal/unsolicited reports – USFS, DNRC, ISAN getting from public. Coordinated survey/trapping efforts: gypsy moth, Siberian silk moth, etc. includes DOA, USFS, DNRC, universities.
	 Databases for uploading/access – spoke with MT Natural Heritage Program about Western Governors Association forest pest list being added to project.
	 Tabletop exercise: Tuesday, March 13 in Helena – will not focus on species as much as process. Focus on EAB and ALB, but keep focus on ICS process.
	 Statewide response plan for EAB? AG: EAB plan is specific to DNRC, not very applicable to whole state, and is more of a contact/call list. Needs revision to be state-wide template. SH: DNRC considering developing general invasive species response plan, could work as well.
	 Gary: Good exercise whether directly involved in tree pest response or not, as it is about process, roles/responsibilities and notification
	 Some states and cities have ordinances to allow staff to go on to private property for eradication/tree removal when there is a detection – potential for Montana state-wide ordinance? Law review – include potential ordinance and 'zone of infestation.'
	 Western IPM grant: potential for emergency response funding in event of detection
	 Consider coupling next tree pest meeting with MISC meeting. Some of work of tree pest group not on 'invasive species,' but 'forest pests,' not all of which are non-native. Special session? Focus on EAB and ALB
	Firewood - Amy Gannon (DNRC Conservation Specialist)
	 Group assembled prior to creation of MISC. Focus on invasive pests/insects coming into the state from the transport of firewood
	 Friday Feb 23: Meeting of directors of DNRC, Transportation, Commerce, Agriculture and FWP on firewood regulations. Goal: state resource managers/directors – options for regulating firewood (coming from out of state). If time, discuss non-regulatory options as well (focus on
	education & outreach).
	 DNRC working closely with BLM and FWP on sharing info and unifying messages – more opportunities like this, esp with 'Don't Move Firewood' campaign (used throughout the west). Doing outreach for non-resident anglers on issue. Amy looking for funds for mailing. FWP provided database. Get a lot of calls from post cards. Found out that needed to do a lot of interagency networking beforehand to get a unified message. Webinar (Lee): Overview of current regulations and policies in relation to firewood in USA.
	 Should see before we consider what our options are here in MT Going to meet in spring and fall
	 Suggestion to provide firewood outreach materials go to Tourism call center. They get thousands of calls on people considering trips to Montana, many questions on camping, so would be good to have info.
	Emerging Issues
	Gail Whiteman not in attendance (feral horses)
	 How do we address invasive mammals and reptiles? Need for additional committees or just 'as needed?' Doesn't seem to be much to do for a group at this point. FWP has a prohibited species list – just have to petition F&W Commission to add species. Same
	for AIS and pet species. Compile list based on other jurisdictions and biological information, go to FWC to add all at once if possible. MT one of few states that doesn't have Asian Clam listed.
Public Comment	 Legal review will include listing process Carroll Blend: Talking to people and listening to you – struck me that there is a model for what
	you're doing – this is a 'start up.' Might be a useful model for you to explore, at least to understand that what you're undertaking is something pretty new. When you get beyond the details, realize that you should try things and see how they work. If they work, continue to do them, if they don't, at least you tried. Thank you for learning experience.
	 Dave Burch: Slade Franklin (Invasive Species Advisory Council) – looking for sponsors for breaks at National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Would MISC be willing to sponsor? Would go on sponsor board and get some publicity. Happening next week in DC. Consider for next year (MISC as sponsor). Also should ensure MT represented at event.
	 Dave Burch: \$100k EPA grant – MDOA applying for project to start native species garden at Capital, revamping of some capital grounds, looking at adding orchard as well. If MISC wants to lend support, would be great. Really what the 'end game' picture if for – great project!

Wrap Up	Next meeting date discussion – February
	 <i>Motion:</i> Jane M. motioned to adjourn, Mike M. seconded <i>Discussion</i> – none <i>Vote:</i> unanimous approval
	Adjourned at 3:05 pm.

4. A	action Items			
Act	ion (From NOV meeting)	Assigned	Due Date	Status
1	Review VIDA bill (ballast water issue) and report back to MISC	David Brooks	2/20/18	Incomplete
2	Send outline of Integrated Pest Management Plan (Fort Peck) to MISC members to provide information on types of information to be included in plan (seeking feedback)	Patricia Gilbert to send/interested members to respond and/or forward to others	2/20/18	Completed
3	MISC members/partners provide input on Ft. Peck Integrated Pest Management Plan	All	n/a	Incomplete
4	Amy to check with firewood groups to see if they want to become a formal MISC committee	Amy Gannon	2/20/18	Completed
5	Include AIS penalties review to Law Review project	Stephanie	3/1/18	Completed
6	Bring AIS penalty issue to EQC meeting	Bryce/Tom/Stephanie	1/17/18	Completed
7	Provide feedback to Bryce Maxwell on data management system (proposal). See draft at fieldguide.mt.gov:81. Send any additional datasets to Bryce.	All	2/20/18	Completed
8	Send out description of new sub-committees to request participation and interest	Stephanie Hester	1/1/18	Completed
9	Bill to provide information, guidance and contacts on feral hog issue	Bill Sparklin	1/15/18	Completed
10	Dave to send out information on process for petitioning weeds for state list.	Dave Burch to send to Stephanie. Stephanie to send in bulletin	Fall 2018	Incomplete
11	Look into MISC booth at Montana Weed Control Association	Stephanie Hester	Reserved	Completed
Act	ion (From FEB meeting)	Assigned	Due Date	Status
	phanie to put electronic packet on website as well as send hard ies to MISC members	Stephanie Hester	Prior to May meeting	Ongoing
SK	feral hog maps to be made available (Stephanie to disseminate)	Bill Sparklin	March 15	Not complete
Sco	pe out venues in Helena for Invasive Species Summit (Oct 3-4)	Stephanie Hester	March 15	Not complete
Ser	id out doodle poll for next 3 meetings	Stephanie Hester	March 1	Completed
	Id upcoming events, news and other info to Kate for inclusion in the etin	All	Ongoing	Ongoing
	vide dates for upcoming Wetland Council meeting – way to piggyback es for next MISC meeting?	Dennis Longknife	March 6	Not complete
Ser	d request for law review contacts & questions to MISC	Kate Wilson/Bryce Christiaens	March 6	Not complete
Ser	d final eDNA science advisory panel questions to MISC	Tom Woolf	March 9	Not complete
	d UC3 meeting date and agenda to MISC	Kate Wilson	March 6	Not complete
	uest information from members on updates, media, and events for asive Species Bulletin	ALL – send to Kate Wilson	Ongoing	Ongoing

Consider becoming partner in 'Squeal on Pigs' campaign, app and hotline (WA, OR, ID)	Kate Wilson/E&O Committee	April 1	Requested information on process
Look at Montana Conservation Menu website as model for invasivespecies.mt.gov website	Kate Wilson/E&O Committee	April 1	Not complete
Consider Fort Peck Interpretive Center for alternate venue for ISAN Invasive Species Training (instead of Billings)	Kate Wilson/Liz Lodman	March 5	Not complete
Marias River float scheduled for July 12 – Follow up on event to see if there is ability to partner at event	Kate Wilson/Stephanie Hester	April 15	Not complete
Put issue of invasive species list on next agenda for discussion and steps to move forward	Stephanie Hester	April 15	Not complete
Law review: Include listing process for adding species to invasive species lists; current rules for adding species to AIS list; potential for statewide firewood ordinance in Montana ('zone of infestation); real estate agent disclosure of invasive species on private	Kate Wilson	April 1	Ongoing
Add diagnostic lab results in the database	Bryce Maxwell/Jed Little to follow up with Jane Mangold	May 1	Not complete
Consider coupling next tree pest meeting with MISC meeting	Katie McKeever	April 1	Not complete
Consider sending MISC representative(s) to ISAC functions in DC and providing sponsorship next year – vote on at next meeting	Bryce C./Stephanie Hester	Dec 15	Not complete

	MISC	NWTF	Western IPM	NISC	TOTALS
Appropriation/Award	\$95,000	\$8,500	\$15,000	\$60,000	
Council member travel	\$20,000	-	-	-	\$20,000
Law Review, Summit, Listening Sessions	\$16,000	\$8,500	\$7,500	-	\$32,00
Science Advisory Panel (2 panels)	\$20,000	-	-		\$20,00
Missouri River Pilot*	\$0	-	-	\$60,000	\$60,00
E&O	\$20,000	-	\$7,500	-	\$27,50
Regional tabletop exercise	\$10,000				\$10,00
Unallocated	\$9,000				
	\$95,000				\$169,500

NISC Missouri River Deliverables and Budget

DELIVERABLES	NISC	ι	JC3
Strategic Plan for Coordination	\$ 3,000		\$0
Coordination workshop	\$ 3,000		\$0
Coordinated EDRR Plan for the Missouri River Basin	\$30,000		\$0
White paper—pilot lessons learned	\$ 8,000		\$0
Economic Impact	\$16,000	\$5,	000
	\$60,000.00		