

**California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC)
January 15th, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

CISAC Members:

Erik Blosser	Humberto Izquierdo	Tom Smith
Tim Crothers	Brent Johnson	Katie Sutherland Ashley
Gina Darin	Ricky Lara	Martha Volkoff
Tom Getts	Shannon Lynch	Helene Wright
Ted Grosholz	Lori Nezhura	Lisa Worthington
David Haviland	Bea Nobua-Behrmann	

CISAC Members Absent:

Stacy Hishinuma

Guests:

Claire Aicken	Jim Farrar	David Pegos
Justin Aquino	Ricardo Gaitan	Ramona Robison
Jonathan Babineau	Heather Healy	Paul Rugman-Jones
Bethany Baibak	Danny Hirschag	Ambika Saini
John Beall	Victoria Hornbaker	Joe Scheele
Adam Borchard	Doug Johnson	Chris Scianni
Chris Borkent	Ethan Jones	Chris Shogren
James Boyd	Carol Kreger	Cherie Shook
Elizabeth Brusati	Joshua Kress	Brice Smith
Stephen Burkholder	Daryl Lara	Stephanie Stark
Rachel Burnap	James Lem	Kristen Stubblefield
Scott Chenu	Patton MacKenzie	Claudia Vazquez
Julie Clark	Dahmoon Maesomy	Tanya Veldhuizen
Tracy Cleveland	Lenihan Mazur	Koren Widdel
Andrew Cline	Collin McVey	Rachel Wigginton
Valerie Cook	Alessandra Moyer	Karey Windbiel-Rojas
Kim Corella	Dominique Norton	David Wirta
Erik Downs	Randall Oliver	

Opening:

The California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. on January 15, 2025. Dr. Shannon Lynch welcomed committee members, guests, and staff.

Public Comments:

Dr. Shannon Lynch shared that the Invasive Shothole Borer (ISHB) subcommittee will serve as the central hub for statewide communication and information sharing about ISHB updates and coordinate with regional stakeholders to develop responses, priorities, and plans.

Tom Getts announced updates to the online Weedcut tool, now including the addition of herbicides and the ability to select from 290 individual species.

Gina Darin shared that the Department of Water Resources is coordinating with the Department of Fish and Wildlife on the growing threat of Golden mussels. She is additionally working on fish restoration in the Delta and Sisson Marsh along with the Division of Boating and Waterways, among other collaborators.

Dr. Ted Grosholz is involved in emerging workgroups looking at possible Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches for the Golden Mussel. Continuing work with the Southern California Caulerpa Action Team (SCCAT) on developing metrics for containment of the known infestations to prevent further spread.

Dr. Tom Smith commented on the discovery of three new infestations of ISHB, including the detection of a new species of ISHB in the Santa Cruz area.

Helene Wright shared progress on the two fruit fly quarantine programs: one Mediterranean fruit fly quarantine in Alameda County and one Oriental fruit fly quarantine in Orange County.

Lisa Worthington shared that the Department of Transportation is reviewing their historical practices and expanding the number of noxious and invasive weed species targeted for weed management and the pesticide use program.

Tim Crothers reported on his crews monitoring Oak trees in the Arroyo Creek of Orange County. They will be reviewing data collected from monitoring for infestation awareness.

Lori Nezhura informed us that the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) department is in full activation mode in response to the Los Angeles Fires. The department has activated Emergency Support Function Eleven.

Marth Volkoff shared that her focus has been on Golden Mussel and will share more information on that growing issue in the presentation later.

Dr. Ricky Lara attended a variety of meetings and conferences related to biological control in pest management. The biocontrol program is expecting funds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Plant Protection Act 7721 Spending Plan for 2025 to assist with biocontrol activities such as targeting the Tomato Leafminer, Diamondback Moth, Mealybug, and Spotted Wing Drosophila.

Dr. Bea Nobua-Behrmann is continuing work on emerging tree pest management. As the South American Palm Weevil spreads up north, she has been participating in meetings in Orange County in preparation to defend palm trees in Orange and Los Angeles Counties. Led several trainings, including the Goldspotted Oak Borer (GSOB) symposium, and will be coordinating efforts with UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) in

San Diego on the GSOB for a “bio blitz” to train surveyors to locate infestations and give training where needed.

Brent Johnson shared that through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the National Parks Service received \$100,000 to set up wash stations for fire crews throughout park sites in California.

David Pegos shared information on the progress of the Spongy Moth eradication project in the Monte Nido area. The Oriental Fruit Fly quarantine in Orange Counties the Mediterranean Fruit Fly quarantines in Alameda are getting under control. Additionally, CDFA staff will be present at the upcoming International Sportsman Expo promoting the “Buy it Where You Burn It” campaign and “Don’t Move Firewood”.

Humberto Izquierdo shared that the Broomrape Board Strategic Planning Task Force convened recently to assess the growing threat, share new information, and discuss policies for pest management.

Victoria Hornbaker gave updates on the upcoming partnership meeting with the National Plant Board on safeguarding, with a focus on pathways and pathway analysis. Additional work includes CDFA collaborating on a Comprehensive Pest Prevention Analysis with UC Davis, which is being reviewed.

Lindsey Hack introduced herself to the board. She was recently hired as an invasive species pest educator for the statewide IPM program and will be involved in invasive pest training for master gardeners.

Chris Scianni shared that their commission has approved the 2025 Bi-Annual Report on the California Marine Invasive Species Program, and it has been presented to the state legislature.

Presentation

Koren Widdel presented the ISCC-CISAC allocation for the Invasive Species Fund. \$800,000 has been allocated towards ISHB and Mediterranean Oak Borer (MOB) survey (trapping), with 93 percent directed toward ISHB and 7 percent toward MOB. The survey aims to prioritize counties based on proximity to the leading edge, existing or new populations, and infestation level into four priority groups.

Motion: To approve the July 17, 2024 meeting minutes of the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve: Tom Getts

Second the motion: Tom Smith

Motion carries: The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the October 16, 2024 meeting minutes of the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee.

Motion to approve: Tim Crothers

Second the motion: Shannon Lynch

Motion carries: The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To approve the proposed CISAC Meeting dates for 2025

Motion to approve: Lisa Worthington

Second the motion: Shannon Lynch

Motion carries: The motion passed unanimously.

2025 PROPOSED CISAC MEETING DATES	
Quarter	Monthly Dates
Q1	Thurs, March 20, 2025
Q2	Thurs, April 17 th , 2025
	Thurs, May 15 th , 2025
	Thurs, June 12 th , 2025
Q3	Thurs, July 17 th , 2025
	Thurs, August 21 st , 2025
	Thurs, September 18 th , 2025
Q4	Thurs, October 16 th , 2025
	Thurs, November 20 th , 2025
	Thurs, December 18 th , 2025

Presentation

Assistant Secretary Madeline Drake presented the 30x30 initiative, a global effort designed to conserve 30 percent of land and waterways by 2030 to combat biodiversity and climate crises. Governor Newsom's executive order N-82-20 aims to develop California's strategic framework after public engagement, outlining three key objectives: a) protecting biodiversity, b) expanding public access to nature, and c) enhancing climate resilience. Additionally, California's approach incorporates three core commitments: advancing equity and tribal partnerships and ensuring economic sustainability. By leveraging existing conservation databases and prioritizing durable protection and ecosystem management, California has increased its conserved land to 25.2 percent.

Presentation

Martha Volkoff presented the detection and response efforts of the Golden Mussel since its detection for the first time in North America. There are similarities between Golden Mussels and other invasive mussel species, except for the Golden Mussels' broader ecological tolerance. There has been rapid colonization of the mussels in California's waterways, particularly the Delta and water conveyance systems. Efforts to contain the

spread include promoting outreach, increased monitoring, and engagement with agencies and water managers to assess the risks and response strategies.

In response to the invasion, a task force led by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has been formed to coordinate containment efforts, assess policy and regulatory needs, and develop a comprehensive response plan. The task force is developing a response plan, including recommendations for necessary policy changes, funding strategies, and expanded authorities. Subgroups within the task force will focus on containment, monitoring, funding, and public outreach, collaborating with academia and other stakeholders. Containment is the priority, and new emergency regulations have added golden mussels to the restricted species list, granting authority to prevent their transport. Federal efforts are also underway to list golden mussels as an injurious species, with public comments encouraged.

Presentation

Dr. Ricky Lara presented updates on proactive monitoring for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in California. EAB is considered an A-rated pest and is established in thirty-six US states but is not present in California. The collaboration for this monitoring project included the six Northern California border stations, fourteen California counties, the University of California Cooperative Extension, the University of California Riverside, and Cal Fire.

The coordinated deployment allowed for 100 EAB traps to be placed in various suitable locations and resulted in the processing of over 100 trap samples at CDFA, with no EAB being detected. Plans for 2025 will involve the redeployment of traps at the previous cooperator sites and based on degree-day models. As part of the objective for the proactive biocontrol project, there will be a second pass to process parasitic Hymenoptera that may be associated with buprestid beetles.

Presentation

Dr. Shannon Lynch presented information on the newly discovered invasive shothole borer beetle species *Euwallacea interjectus* (EUIN) that was identified in Santa Cruz County. Until October 2024, there have been two species of Ewallaceae, Polyphagous Shothole Borer (PSHB) *Euwallacea fornicatus* and Kuroshio Shothole Borer (KSHB) *Euwallacea Kuroshio*. The new beetle species *Euwallacea interjectus* carrying *Fusarium floridanum* was confirmed by CDFA through DNA in late November of 2024.

The EUIN is larger than the PSHB (3.78 mm vs. 2.1 mm long) and creates a larger entry hole in the trees (1.75 mm versus 0.83 mm). The Santa Cruz County Department of Agriculture and UCCE are coordinating with CDFA to monitor and respond to the infestation. The Lynch lab is collaborating with UCCE and state and county parks to research the full range of potential tree species that may be affected by the beetle fungus. The host range for ISHB reproductive hosts is roughly seventy-seven tree species, eighteen of which can be killed when attacked, and it is predominantly targeting box elder trees.

Discussion

To prepare for the Proposition 4 Funding opportunity, CISAC is reviewing previously discussed ideas that will help guide discussions for the use of the new anticipated funds. Notes from December 10th, 2021 reflect the committee developing a list of programs that could benefit from CISAC's previous allocation of \$5,000,000 in funds over the coming years. The list of suggestions included:

1. Invasive Species Summit.
2. Operational funds for CISAC/Council Meetings.
3. Invasive Species tours.
4. Shothole borer and/or Mediterranean Oak Borer funding (outreach, research, and trapping).
5. Expanding the use of iNaturalist.
6. Collaboration between databases, websites, and maps.
7. Weed manager rapid response areas (and other widespread management).
8. Emergency rapid response fund and platforms.
9. Funding the Firewood Task Force.
10. Funding the Don't Pack a Pest campaign and the Border Protection stations.
11. Equipment to enable better invasive species monitoring and mitigation.
12. A dedicated support staff for CISAC (website, operational, and investigative).
13. Items not chosen from the first Summit: ecological & economic impact report; rapid response work group; biological control research; increased statewide branding; incentives' certification and regulation to control high-risk vectors.
14. Updating the living list of Invasive Species and Pathways.
15. Interagency cooperation of pathways.
16. Agricultural Commissioners assisting with pathways inspection and internet sales inspection.
17. Funding for statewide wood borer and wasp trapping.
18. Funding for evaluation, research, and demonstrations from West Coast Arborists, Master Gardeners, and or/ Cal Naturalists.
19. Funding to restore areas after removing Invasive Species or to prevent invasive species after disasters.
20. Biosecurity.
21. An additional training facility and expanded detection ability for California Dog Teams.
22. Funding for workshops and more, larger facilities for biocontrol, and to integrate biocontrol with existing strategies.
23. Funding for smart technologies like automated traps and drones.
24. Funding to find existing tools that work with climate change.
25. Development of more Integrated Pest Management tools.
26. Funding for comprehensive youth education and outreach.
27. Education of the general public.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next California Invasive Species Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2025.