

**California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC)
Outreach and Education Subcommittee
April 1st, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

CISAC Members:

Tim Crothers**	Beatriz Nobua-Behrmann**	Chris Scianni**
Gina Darin	Ricky Lara	Katie Sutherland-Ashley
Ted Grosholz	Shannon Lynch	

*Proxy

**Virtual non-voting

Guests:

Kari Arnold	Lindsey Hack	David Pegos
Jonathan Babineau	Heather Healy	Ambika Saini
Elizabeth Brusati	Victoria Hornbaker	Cherie Shook
Kim Corella	Karen Jetter	Andrew Sutherland
Jim Farrar	Heather Kelly	Abby Taylor-Silva
Jan Gonzales	Stephanie Lucero	
Daniel Gray	Dahmoon Maesomy	

Opening:

The California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) Outreach Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm on April 1st, 2026. Dr. Shannon Lynch welcomed committee members, guests, and staff.

Discussion:

Gina Darin provided a summary of the Invasive Species Council of California (ISCC) meeting on March 16th. She presented on summit goals which include a) identify major invasive species threats to California agriculture, natural resources, human health, and unique biodiversity, b) increase government officials' understanding of solutions to address invasive species threats, and c) identify and prioritize three to five realistic actions to address invasive species threats over the next three to five years, d) improve cross-jurisdictional coordination and accountability within California's invasive species responses. In addition to the recommended goals of the summit, she noted that there will be three overarching themes for the summit, including climate, sustainable pest management, and stewardship.

The recommended tour goals are to develop a shared understanding of the California Pest Prevention System, ways to improve the system, and protect agriculture, natural resources, and our unique biodiversity from invasive species. Other logistics and criteria for consideration include four full-day tours in Northern California, Southern California, and the Central Valley-Delta area for 110 individuals each as well as a tour for legislators and their staff focused on the Sacramento area. The summit and tours will include all taxa and focus on engaging with local partners: local agriculture departments, legislative offices, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and Resource Conservation Districts/Water Districts.

The ISCC secretaries agreed with the summit and tour goals and approved moving forward with planning logistics. Gina asked the secretaries to select the summit dates, and the direction given was to plan the summit for this year for October 1st- 2nd, 2026 at the Natural Resources Agency Building. Gina also asked for delegated authority to make interim decisions in planning the logistics of the summit and tours between now and the next ISCC meeting (July 6th, 2026), and the secretaries agreed. The next items of action before the July 6th meeting will include finalizing the tours, the tour agenda, selecting speakers for the summit, and case studies for discussion.

Stephanie Lucero shared milestones for the invasive species tours planning. The goal is to have the tours take place sometime between June and July. Key criteria to consider while planning the tours include a) the ability to load/unload up to 100 participants, b) a loop of the geographic area, c) four tours – Northern California, Southern California, Central Valley-Delta area, and a legislative tour in the Sacramento area d) ensure tours support the invasive species goals, e) all taxa will be discussed at the tours, f) aim to have dog team at tours, g) engage agriculture community, NGO's, and other important partners, h) across all four tours, aim to have varied topography of California.

Stephanie began the discussion on tour planning, starting with Southern California. The itinerary from the previous Southern California tour was displayed for members to review the loop. The previous tour started in Los Alamitos of Orange County, went through Irvine, Bolsa Chica, and Huntington Beach, and returned to Irvine at the end. David Pegos suggested starting the tour at the Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Joint Forces Training Base, showcasing the joint medfly preventative release program and an overview of agricultural commissioner's weights and sealers.

Andrew Sutherland from the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources recommended the invasive Formosan subterranean termite species. It is considered one of the worst invasive species globally, causing millions of dollars in damage, primarily to residential structures. Dr. Lynch has compiled a list of potential tour sites, and she added the suggestion of the *Formosan* termites and Los Alamitos to it. She also said Huntington Library would be a good spot to show invasive shothole borer (ISHB) and the Cuban slug. Newport Beach was also suggested for its potential to showcase *Caulerpa prolifera*. Dr. Nobua-Behrmann suggested Griffith Park for showing the ISHB infestation. She inquired if there would be region-specific groups to help with the planning of sites. Stephanie answered that there will be smaller working groups, site-specific. The working group for the Southern California Tour will possibly include Dr. Nobua-Behrmann and Chris Shogren.

The itinerary from the previous tour was displayed for members to review the loop. The previous tour started at the Redding Civic Auditorium, moved to Shasta College, Lassen County Nursery, and headed to Whiskey Town before returning to Redding. For planning this year's tour, Dr. Lynch suggested Eureka for showcasing *Phytophthora lateralis*. Other suggestions from Dr. Lynch included Juniper Drive natural area, China Hill, and areas with noxious weeds. David suggested going from Eureka to Klamath as

an option. The group consensus was fine with looking at the North coast as exploring options for site visits. The next steps for the Northern California tour planning will be to reach out to partners or others who have potential invasive species concerns and locations to visit.

For the Central Valley-Delta tour, the Delta-Suisun Marsh was suggested as an option to tour. Gina suggested the Big Break Regional Shoreline; it would be a good location to visit aquatic species. The subcommittee agreed that the Contra Costa County Department of Agriculture would be another stop to consider in planning the loop. Weed Management Areas and Resource Conservation Districts were mentioned as other potential site locations to showcase. Other relevant species mentioned by others that can be featured on this loop include *Phytophthora lateralis*, ISHB, Yellow star thistle, and Broomrape. Members were asked to brainstorm other additional pests or locations and partners that can be contacted to help explore options. Karen Jetter suggested the Tracy Fish Facility as a tour location for the Central Valley tour.

The Legislative tour will likely be in the Sacramento area and will mirror the tour from last year. The previous tour started at the California Department of Food and Agriculture – Meadowview Campus, and featured the chemical laboratory, biological control facilities, warehouse, and diagnostics laboratory. The next stop was the University of California Cooperative Extension Sacramento Office, followed by a tour of the Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. Then the tour continued to the Arden Bar pond featuring marine invasive species and departed for the Matsuda Nursery before returning to Meadowview

Stephanie summarized the next steps, starting with Shannon sharing an excel spreadsheet of tours locations and suggestions to members. Subcommittee members were asked to work on identifying local speakers at the sites that can be available. Stephanie asked members who are interested in joining the working group to reach out to her and David. Stephanie stated that she will put together the information for the tours in straw proposals and share the information at the next meeting and will identify any gaps that remain to be addressed and share that.

The previous Invasive Species Summit Agenda was shared. Stephanie noted the key details that will be important to nail down, such as case study panels, speakers, and group facilitators. Victoria suggested a fifteen-minute discussion on Sustainable Pest Management and a fifteen-minute discussion on the California Pest Prevention Program Analysis (CP3A) Report. David suggested New World Screw Worm and Rat Lung Worm as other relevant topics of interest.

The subcommittee moved to the discussion of the criteria for participants, including the selection of ten subsidized tour participants from regional areas that are under-represented. The Subcommittee discussed how to identify the criteria, outreach, and other logistics for the decision-making process. Victoria suggested using the disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged map tool to ensure representation from all communities is there. The next steps for the participant criteria will be to arrange a

working group, and put together proposals, and share with the group during the next outreach meeting, then present that as a vote to CISAC.

Public Comment:

N/A

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2026 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm.