

California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) Subcommittee for the Outreach & Education April 22nd, 2026 Meeting Minutes

CISAC Members:

Tim Crothers**	Ted Grosholz	Beatriz Nobua-Behrmann**
Gina Darin	Ricky Lara**	Chris Scianni**
Tom Getts**	Shannon Lynch	

*Proxy

**Virtual non-voting

Guests:

Jonathan Babineau	Dahmoon Maesomy	Cherie Shook
Elizabeth Brusati	LaChandra Marzetta	Karen Silva
Jeffrey Caudill	Anne Megaro	Abby Taylor-Silva
Evonne Fell	David Pegos	Karey Windbiel-Rojas
Stephanie Lucero	Patton MacKenzie	Virginia Jameson
Shannon Lundin	Ambika Saini	Victoria Hornbaker

Opening:

The California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) Outreach & Education Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 1:38 pm on April 22nd, 2026. Dr. Shannon Lynch welcomed committee members, guests, and staff.

Committee Business:

Motion: Approve consent agenda for January 30, 2026, meeting minutes, February 13, 2026, meeting minutes, and April 1, 2026, meeting minutes.

First motion: Dr. Shannon Lynch

Second motion: Dr. Ted Grosholz

Motion carries: *The motion passed unanimously with revisions to minutes added.*

Discussion:

Dr. Lynch started the discussion by talking about planning the tours and priority locations. A google form spreadsheet was sent out to committee members to provide input on potential sites to include on the tours in the points of areas being discussed.

Subcommittee members discussed the logistics to consider such as entertainment events and other dates to avoid while planning the tours. Stephanie Lucero suggested planning the Southern California tour closer to early September and the other members agreed. The Southern California tour is planned to start off in Los Alamitos at the joint California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and United States Department of Agriculture’s Mediterranean Fruit Fly Preventive Release Program (Medfly PRP). There will also be an overview of the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights and Measures office. David Pegos informed the subcommittee that the agricultural commissioners from Los Angeles and Orange Counties will participate in the tour. He will ask them to attend the next subcommittee meeting to provide more planning logistics.

The Port of Long Beach is one potential tour location. Chris Scianni, California State Lands Commission could present on ballast water management and hull fouling from this location. David Pegos suggested having a representative from Long Beach discuss the port issues with invasive species sold through the commerce pathway. Potential topics for the bus lectures will include fire recovery, Weed Management Areas (WMAs), and gold spotted oak borer. David asked who else needs to be engaged to Southern California, Dr. Bea Nobua-Behrmann suggested including Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advisor, Eric Middleton, the UC Cooperative Extension County Director Keith Nathaniel and Horticulture Advisor Chris Shogren. For vertebrate related issues in LA, Niamh Quinn was recommended. Jeffrey Caudill from California Department of Parks and Recreation will provide recommendations as well.

Southern California tour – Los Alamitos (tentative)

1. Loop starts in Los Alamitos
2. El Dorado Park
3. Seal Beach
4. Port of Long Beach
5. Los Angeles Airport
6. Loop closes in Los Alamitos

The Northern California tour is planned to start off in Eureka at the Humboldt County Agricultural Commissioner's office. The second stop will be Eureka High School featuring the eradication efforts for giant knapweed. The third stop could be the Klamath Falls Dam Removal site, which will feature the Yurok tribe invasive species monitoring activities and other related issues. The fourth stop would include a drive to the old growth redwood site to observe invasive species' impacts. Dr. Lynch mentioned potential sites along highway 299 between Arcata and Willow Creek showing Port-Orford cedar affected by root disease caused by *Phytophthora lateralis*.

Karey Windbiel-Rojas from University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR) suggested contacting Yana Valachovic who is the Forest Advisor and County Director for Humboldt. Tom Getts recommended Jeff Stackhouse who is the Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor. Other recommendations included engaging the WMAs, and a few others for planning out the Northern California tour.

Northern California tour – Eureka (tentative)

1. Humboldt County Agricultural Commissioner's office
2. Eureka High School featuring Giant Knapweed
3. Klamath Falls Dam Removal site
4. Stop at (location TBD) to discuss (topic TBD)
5. Klamath Falls Dam Removal site
6. Old Growth Redwood site
7. Stop at (location TBD) to discuss (topic TBD)
8. Return to Eureka

The Central Valley tour is planned to start off in the Delta, at the Dutch Slough tidal wetland restoration site or Oakley Big Break Visitor Center. David said to include the Delta Protection Committee/ Delta Stewardship Council in planning the logistics. The second stop could be Suisun Marsh and San Pablo Bay. The third stop will route through Contra Costa County Agricultural Commissioner's office. Dr. Ricky Lara mentioned Kris Godfrey is a great contact to include on this tour.

Other locations of interest will include the Bay Area Native Plant Nursery, Tracy Fish Facility and the Golden Bear Research Center at Cal Poly Maritime Academy. Potential invasive species covered in this tour will include aquatic invasive weeds, nutria, golden mussel, star thistle, water hyacinth, new world screwworm, rat lung worm etc. Gina asked members to think of more locations and speakers.

Central Valley tour – Delta (tentative)

1. UC IPM at UC Davis
2. Suisun Marsh – Nutria
3. Big Break Regional Shoreline (near Concord/Walnut Creek)
4. Consumes River Preserve
5. Stone Lake
6. Return back to UC Davis

Stephanie Lucero discussed developing recommendations for criteria to support under-resourced participants. She shared that there will be ten participants per location (thirty in total), and participants will be local to the tour regional area. The criteria for participant eligibility were reviewed; the recommended selection factors and the suggested scoring rubric were provided for feedback. Victoria Hornbaker recommended using the mapping tools for the disadvantaged communities or severely disadvantaged communities that were developed for the Prop 4 funding. Chris Scianni commented on asking for the participants to include how they will use the information learned. Dr. Ted Grosholz suggested asking for a letter from an accompanying affiliation organization or community leader.

Recommendations for California Invasive Species Summit were discussed and Stephanie Lucero shared Jim Farrer's ideas for the 2026 case studies panel. Agricultural recommendations were Asian citrus psyllid, huanglongbing disease, Carpophilus beetle, and Egyptian broomrape. Natural area topics included sudden oak death, yellow star thistle, and feral pigs. Urban areas impacted by South American palm weevil, Mediterranean oak borer, and Japanese beetle. Public health related topics included *Aedes aegypti* mosquitos, dengue fever and rat lungworm.

David asked members in the room about topics they were interested in being a content facilitator for. The following is tentative until content facilitators are determined for each session.

Day 1:

Invasive Species – Case studies for discussion topics

Breakout sessions – by Taxa

Content facilitators:

Aquatic plants and Algae – Gina Darin

Mollusks and other Invertebrates – Dr. Ted Grosholz

Arthropods – Dr. Shannon Lynch and Dr. Bea N-Behrmann

Day 2:

Invasive Species – Case studies for discussion topics

Breakout sessions – by Pathway*

*Add green waste as a breakout session topic.

Content facilitators:

Transportation – Chris Scianni

Pet trade – Dr. Ted Grosholz

Public Comments:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 pm. The next CISAC Invasive Species Subcommittee for the Outreach & Education meeting is scheduled for May 13th, 2026, at 1:30 pm.