

California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) Subcommittee for the Outreach & Education June 23, 2026 Meeting Minutes

CISAC Outreach and Education Subcommittee Members:

Tim Crothers*	Dr. Ricky Lara*	Chris Scianni*
Gina Darin	Dr. Ted Grosholz*	Dr. Katie Sutherland-Ashley*
Tom Getts*	Dr. Shannon Lynch	

*Virtual non-voting

Guests:

Elizabeth Brusati	Randall Oliver	Rachel Burnap
Elias Bunting	MacKenzie Patton	Thais Spiropoulos
Heather Healy	Koren Widdel	
Dahmoon Maesomy	Curtis Ewing	

Staff:

Jonathan Babineau	La Chandra Marzetta	Ambika Saini
Victoria Hornbaker	David Pegos	

Opening:

The California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) Outreach & Education Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm on June 23, 2026. Gina Darin welcomed committee members, guests, and staff.

Roll Call: Jonathan Babineau conducted roll call for the meeting.

Motion: To Approve the minutes for the June 1, 2026 Outreach and Education Subcommittee.

1st motion: Gina Darin

2nd motion: Ted Grosholz

Motion passes: unanimously

Discussion: Development of Recommendations and Logistics for Invasive Species Tours

The tentative dates for the tours are as follows:

- The legislative tour will be planned for August 5.
- The Delta tour is planned for August 12.
- The Eureka tour is planned for August 20.
- The Los Angeles tour is planned for August 26.

Los Angeles Tour

Members began discussion on the Los Angeles tour by giving updates on tentatively planned activities. Chris Scianni informed the subcommittee that the shipping haul company informed them they are not available for touring on August 26. David Pegos

will follow up on the boat tours to confirm availability. The El Dorado Nature Center has confirmed picnic tables will be available. Additionally, the tour at the nature center will be split into two groups, each led by a representative who will provide information about the center's features and answer questions. Dr. Shannon Lynch confirmed Rachel Burnap as one of the speakers for this tour, who will discuss green waste and fire pathways. Dr. Beatriz Nobua-Behrmann suggested the topic of South American palm weevil for the second bus. David Pegos confirmed Joe Scheele as a speaker for the Port of Long Beach and a dog team demonstration at Carson International Mail Facility. A portable speaker system will be needed for the tours, and Chris Scianni added that there is only one portable speaker.

Stephanie Lucero shared the tentatively planned Los Angeles tour document.

Stop 1- 9-10:30am: Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services and Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos

Purpose/taxa: Welcome to SoCal Tour, CDFA/USDA Joint Medfly PRP, Oriental and other Fruit Flies. Overview of Orange County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures.

10:30-10:45: *Bus to El Dorado*

Stop 2- 10:45-11:30am: El Dorado Nature Center / El Dorado Park

Purpose/taxa: Sycamores, terrestrial plants, aquatic plants/algae, shothole bore, public education, & community stewardship. (Station tours for the quarter mile).

11:30-11:50am: *Bus to Carson*

Stop 3- 12-1pm: 21750 Arnold Center, Carson 90810 (Carson Mail Facility)

Air and mail pathway stop, plant pests, animal and plant diseases, regulated commodities, dog teams, Federal inspection, CBP, agriculture specialists help prevent harmful plant pests and foreign animal diseases and APHIS operates plant inspection stations near major US ports of entry.

1-1:20pm: Bus to USDA Plant Inspections

Purpose/Taxa: Bus discussion, mail, passenger baggage, air cargo, plant diseases, animal products, and human disease interfaces. (Tentative speaker Rachel Burnap (green waste and firewood))

Stop 4- 1:20-2:15pm: USDA Plant Inspection-222 Kansas St, El Segundo, CA

Purpose/Taxa: Air and pathway stop, plant pests, animal and plant diseases, regulated commodities, dog teams and Federal inspections, CBP agriculture specialists help prevent harmful plant pests and foreign animal diseases, and APHIS operates plant inspection stations near major U.S. ports of entry.

2:15-3:15pm: *Bus down the 1 to Port of Long Beach*

Purpose/Taxa: Bus #1 Speaker: Chris

Stop 5: Port of Long Beach / harbor viewpoint or reserved port briefing

Purpose/Taxa: Private tour available. Marine invasive species, mollusks and other invertebrates, ballast water, cargo inspection, water infrastructure, and environmental justice near port communities.

Stop 6: Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge

Purpose/Taxa: Wetland, vertebrates, aquatic plants, golden mussels invasive Spartina-style management discussion, and interagency access constraints. Tamarix and Arundo.

Eureka Tour

Members began discussion on the Eureka tour by giving updates on planned activities. Dr. Shannon Lynch mentioned that the Yurok Tribe/Wiyot Tribe communities have been engaged in the planning of the Eureka tour. The Yurok tribe territory has a (list name of species) infestation and will be interested in educating the tour members on their situation. The Wiyot Tribe may be available to potentially host the tour members and talk about forest pests. Additionally, Dr. Shannon Lynch said there may be possible discussion at the site around Klamath Falls on the dam removal impacts on the Klamath River. There is concern about a dog team demonstration at this tour location, so members strategized on other animal alternatives such as geese or falcons to explore. Gina Darin will reach out to the Department of Fire and Wildlife to inquire about whether their dog team is available.

Dr. Shannon Lynch also discussed the possibility of a “hygiene walk” to showcase biosecurity efforts, where tour members would see an alcohol and brush demonstration to see how to clean boots to sanitize. Members agreed there is a need to nail down logistics for the discussed route stops and will work to identify where more effort is needed. Another component of the tour the members want to focus on is the bus speakers and the discussion topics. Potential topics and speakers that have been identified so far include Chris Scianni discussing sudden oak death, cultural fires as a topic, and Phytophthora laterals as a topic. Dr. Ted Grosholz mentioned marine fisheries and possibly educating the tour members on aquatic invasive species, such as Hog Island and disease affecting oysters.

Stephanie Lucero shared the tentatively planned Eureka tour document.

Eureka area Tour (August 20)

9:00am-10:00am: Humboldt County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Purpose/Taxa: This tour will begin with an overview of the CACs' Office. There will be a Welcome and Orientation, followed by an introduction to the Agricultural Commissioner, ending with a weight and measures overview.

10:00am-10:15am: Bus to Stop 1

Purpose/Taxa: There will be a bus discussion prepping for Eureka High School.

Stop 1: 10:15am-10:35am: Eureka High School

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will learn about Giant Knapweed-eradication options, with the possibility of a detection dog demonstration.

10:35am-11:40am: Bus to Stop 2

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will participate in bus discussion on the Klamath River restoration, salmon disease, harmful algal blooms, invasive plants and tribal sovereignty.

Stop 2: 11:40am-12:45pm: Klamath River/Yurok partner briefing

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will learn about tribal, fishery, water-quality and restoration perspectives. This stop will feature discussion on the lower Klamath dam removals, which reopened 400 miles of salmon habitat making and cross jurisdictional restoration. The Yurok representatives can discuss the recent sod webworms infestation of their lands and the state of emergency response. Stephanie has reached out to the Yurok tribe and is waiting for a response from the representative that works on invasive species management. This site will also serve as a lunch stop.

12:45pm-1:00pm: Bus to Stop 3

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will participate in discussion on *Phytophthora lateralis*, terrestrial plants, roadside weed corridors, and sudden oak death response.

Stop 3: 1:00pm-2:00pm: Prairie Creek Redwoods/El Prairie area

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will learn about forest ecosystems, terrestrial plants, plant disease, arthropods, vertebrates, prevention hygiene and visitor pathways. There will also be a hiking hygiene presentation.

2:00pm-3:10pm: Bus to Stop 4

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will join bus discussion on marine invasive species, European green crab, aquaculture biosecurity, shellfish pathways, mollusks and other invertebrates.

3:25pm-3:55pm: Samoa Beach – is tentatively added, depending on route time.

Stop 4: 3:55pm-4:55pm: Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge/Shorebird Loop

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will be shown the wetland refuge, migratory birds, aquatic plants/algae, invasive invertebrates. Topics of discussion will include refuge management and agriculture wildlife interface at this site.

4:55pm-5:30pm: Return to 5630 S Broadways.

Purpose/Taxa: Ask attendees for feedback on wrap-up gaps, success and regional consideration for summit goals.

Delta Tour

Members began discussion on the Delta tour by giving updates on the planned activities. Dr. Shannon Lynch informed the members that the Consumes River Preserve Center was now confirmed to be a stop on the tour. There will be a discussion of the UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM) and the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Program (ANR) on agricultural topics related to invasive species and biocontrol efforts. Gina Darin shared she is following up with Rush Ranch to confirm availability and mentioned Big Break Regional shoreline can be an option to consider for lunch. David Pegos suggested exploring the possibility of having the tour include a demonstration of a boat decontamination station.

Dr. Shannon Lynch mentioned the Accreditation to Improve Restoration (AIR) program as a topic for discussion during the UC IPM stop and will ask Joanna Castilio to be a speaker as a representative from the program. Another potential site for this tour is the Consumes River, where the topic of Mediterranean oak borer can be discussed. Gina Darin mentioned that the Herbicide Land Trust may be able to show a drone demonstration in the water (no herbicide application). Members will follow up on remaining logistics to confirm locations, speakers, and topics and provide updates at the next meeting.

Stephanie Lucero shared the tentatively planned Delta tour document.

Stop 1: 9:00am-9:45am The UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM) / UCANR – Davis

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will be educated on the statewide IPM overview, agriculture community engagement, pest detection, invasive arthropods, plant disease, and science-to-policy translation. Kris Godfrey and Dr. Ricky Lara will be speakers for this tour site.

9:45am-10:30am: Bus to Stop 2

Stop 2: 10:30am-11:30am: Rush Ranch

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will be shown brackish marsh, waterfowl, invasive vertebrates, aquatic weeds, levees, mosquito/vector control, and agriculture-wetland interface. There may be a drone presentation on water demonstrating herbicide treatment at Suisun marsh, with permission from the Land Trust. For this tour we may possibly coordinate with Krista Hoffman from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) as a speaker.

11:30am–12:30pm: Bus to Stop 3

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will participate in discussion of Suisun-to-Delta transitions, water exports, recreation, and invasive species spread.

Stop 3: 12:30pm-2:00pm: Big Break Regional Shoreline Visitor Center

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will learn about the Delta ecology, public education, aquatic plants/algae. There will be a golden mussel discussion by Martha Volkoff, a discussion on nutria by Valerie Cook, CDFW could show a nutria trap scenario, and interagency reporting. The site will serve as a lunch stop. A few show and tell items for this tour will include bringing nutria, golden mussel, and the original pipe that California Department of Water Resources (DWR) found the mussel on.

Stop 4: 2:45pm–3:30pm Cosumnes River Preserve

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will learn about the riparian and wetland restoration, invasive terrestrial plants, aquatic plants/algae, birds and other vertebrates, mosquito/vector disease, and community science. This site will serve as a good opportunity to talk about MOB.

3:30–4:15 pm: Return to UC IPM, Davis

Attendees will participate in tour discussions on legislative takeaways, Prop 4 alignment, statewide coordination gaps, and summit recommendations.

Legislative Tour

Members began discussion on the legislative tour by giving updates on tentatively planned activities. The California Pest Prevention Program Analysis (CP3A) report will be an item of discussion for this tour. The topic of sustainable pest management was mentioned, and members will inquire with Sapna Thottathil and Elias Bunting from the Department of Pesticide Regulation to see their availability for the tour. David Pegos mentioned the emerging threat of the New World Screwworm as a possible topic of discussion.

Stephanie Lucero shared the planned legislative tour document.

Stop 1: 9:00am-11:00am: Meet at CDFA Meadowview Campus – Plant Pest Diagnostics

Purpose/Taxa: The tour will begin at the CDFA Meadowview campus and will showcase the Chemical Laboratory, Biological Control Facilities, Meadowview Warehouse, and the Diagnostic Laboratory.

11:00am– Bus to Stop 2

Stop 2: 11:30am-12:00pm: Japanese Dodder 5224 Assembly Ct, Sacramento, CA 95823. This location will serve as a quick stop and provide an in-bus discussion on Japanese dodder and the Comprehensive Pest Prevention Program Analysis report before the next stop.

Stop 3: 12:00pm UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Sacramento Office

Purpose/Taxa: This tour site will be a working lunch and a presentation by UCCE.

Stop 4: 1:00pm – Tour Sacramento CAC Office

Purpose/Taxa: Participants will walk over to the Sacramento County Agriculture Department presentation on pest detection and pest exclusion programs. Topics at this site will include the Japanese beetle, and a dog team demonstration.

2:00pm-2:30pm – Bus to Stop 5

Stop 5: 2:30pm-3:00pm – Aquatic Invasive Stop at Arden Bar Pond

Purpose/Taxa: Discussion at this location will feature marine invasive species.

3:00pm-3:30pm – Bus to Stop 6

Stop 6: 3:30pm-4:30pm – Tour Matsuda's Nursery Stop.

Purpose/Taxa: Attendees will tour the nursery stop.

4:30pm-5:00pm – In route back to Meadowview.

5:00pm – Arrive back to Meadowview – Plant Pest Diagnostics.

Tour Participant Criteria

Stephanie Lucero shared the tour participant criteria document and provided updates. Once the tour participant document is reviewed and/or approved by the Invasive Species Council of California, it will be accepting applications on a rolling basis. Another aspect members discussed was having the selected tour participants retain their receipts to process and submit travel-related expenses. Stephanie will set up a Google document form for the tour participants. CDFA support staff will be asked to review the applications received, and then the CISAC outreach and education subcommittee will conduct a technical review.

Public Comments: None.

Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 pm. The next CISAC Invasive Species Subcommittee for the Outreach & Education meeting is to be determined.