



**Northeast Aquatic
Nuisance Species Panel**
Resource Digest – August 29, 2004
Volume 3, Issue 7

Please send items and postings for the NEANS Panel Digest to ans@ecologyaction.ca.

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Index

A. News From the Northeast

Connecticut Bans Invasive Plants
Who Gets to Sail Lake Waramaug?
Norway Maples Spark Cutting Controversy
Invasive Species Highlighted at Adirondack Water Quality Conference
Adirondack's "Lone Ranger" Calls For Back-up
Lake Champlain Chapter of Trout Unlimited Granted Funding to Battle Invasives
"Riverscope" Zooms in on Zebra Mussels
Maine's Least Wanted Aquatic Weeds
In Like a Lion, Out Like, Well, Never
Vermont Senator Puts in an Oar for Hand-Pulling
Wanted: Homes for Bugs
\$2.4 Million in Federal Grants for Invasive Species Work
NSERC Asked to Fund Canadian Invasive Network

B. Coming Soon to a Watershed Near You

Upward Bound Looks Down on Invasives
American Fisheries Society Meeting Highlights Threats to Fish
The Untamed Growth of the Aquatic Garden
Good Neighbors Can Make for Good Biocontrol
Chlorine Companions
Pigment Trace on Toxic Algae
Herbiciding For "Habitat"
Plain-ly Positive
Law No Longer Silent on Mute Swans

C. Policy and Legislation

Invasive Techies Unite: The Baltimore Declaration

D. Reports, Publications, and Web-based Resources

Invasive Species Take Over ESA Meeting
Cost Control: New Report Analyses the Costs of Weed Eradications
TREE Opinion Piece on Biocontrol
Invasive Species Policy: Conservation or Land Grab?
PA Field Guide: Common Invasive Plants in Riparian Areas

E. Upcoming Conferences and Events

- XIIth International Conference on Weed Biology
- HACCP Planning for Natural Resources Pathways
- 2004 Western Regional Panel Annual Meeting
- Ballast Water and Waste Water Treatment Aboard Ships and in Ports
- 2nd National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration
- 9th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions
- 13th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species
- 12th Annual North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA) Meeting
- Monitoring Science and Technology Symposium
- 3rd International Conference on Biological Invasions NEOBIOTA - From Ecology to Control
- The Silent Invaders: Identification & Management of Invasive Plants
- North American Plant Protection Organization Annual Meeting
- 2nd International Rodent Summit
- Eighth International Wildlife Law Conference
- The Gulf of Maine Summit: Committing to Change
- 24th International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society
- Third International Conference on Invasive *Spartina*
- Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species (NEANS) Panel Meeting
- XIth International Conference on Harmful Algae
- 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress
- Canadian Weed Science Society Meeting
- First National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration (NCER)
- Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting
- Fifth National Integrated Pest Management Symposium
- Invasive Species: Their Ecological Impacts and Alternatives for Control

E. Other – Funding Opportunities

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “Pulling Together Initiative”

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A. News From the Northeast

Connecticut Bans Invasive Plants

As of June 2004, Connecticut has banned the sale and import of 96 invasive plants, including twenty-two aquatic weeds such as water chestnut, purple loosestrife, and fanwort. The ban is part of a larger initiative being put forward by the Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection and the state legislature to combat invasive species. For the full story, see http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid= 12717004&BRD= 1630&PAG= 461&dept_id= 7736&rfti= 6.

Who Gets to Sail Lake Waramaug?

In the next two weeks, three towns located on the edge of Lake Waramaug, Connecticut, will be voting as to whether or not boaters from other towns should be allowed to use the lake, which is one of two waterbodies in the region which has remained free of Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels. If the citizens of Kent, Washington, and Warren favor of allowing twenty non-resident boats per day into the lake, the town of Washington will be responsible for providing a boat inspector to monitor boats while they are being launched. The proposal is meant to assuage fears that state-funded boat ramp upkeep and monitoring could fall by the wayside should budget cuts occur. Originally, the state’s Department of Environmental Protection had suggested allowing 85 non-resident boaters per day onto the lake. For the full story and voting dates and locations, see

[http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid= 12733059&BRD= 2303&PAG= 461&dept_id= 478976&rfi= 6.](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=12733059&BRD=2303&PAG=461&dept_id=478976&rfi=6)

Norway Maples Spark Cutting Controversy

Some residents of Newmarket, New Hampshire, were upset to observe that Norway maples growing in the town's riverside park were cut down, in spite of promises that the trees would remain standing as a waterfront walkway was built. Officials stated the trees were cut down because they are invasive but some claim they were cut for engineering rather than ecological reasons. The town was allowed to cut down the trees through the issuance of a state wetlands permit. Gary Springs, state outreach coordinator for the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act, said his office will look into the controversy. For the full story, see <http://www.seacoastonline.com/news/exeter/08172004/news/32545.htm>.

Invasive Species Highlighted at Adirondack Water Quality Conference

According to Dan Kelting, a Paul Smith's College professor who is executive director of the Adirondack Watershed Institute, efforts such as the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (<http://www.adkinvasives.com/Index.html>, see related story below), require state funding commitments in order to be as effective as possible. Kelting was speaking from the Adirondack Water Quality Conference held last month at Paul Smith's College in northern New York, which featured invasive species as one of two focus topics. For the full story see [http://www.timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID= 274712&category= REGIONO&R&BCCode= HOME&newsdate= 8/11/2004](http://www.timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=274712&category=REGIONO&R&BCCode=HOME&newsdate=8/11/2004).

Adirondack's "Lone Ranger" Calls For Back-up

Steve Flint, head of the invasive plants control program for The Nature Conservancy and self-described "Lone Ranger," may need more than one trusty sidekick to control invasive weeds like milfoil, water chestnut, and Japanese knotweed. Flint is part of the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, a collaborative effort of The Nature Conservancy, the New York Departments of Environmental Conservation and Transportation, and the Adirondack Park Agency. Project staff, assisted by volunteers drawn from scout troops and AmeriCorps, have been successful in combating invasive species, with the noted success of reducing stands of purple loosestrife by 50% over three years. Unfortunately, just as they work to eradicate established invaders, new species like the wild chervil and black swallow-wort are discovered. Flint fears that these invaders will displace rare plants like the ram's head lady slipper or diverse communities such as those found in the Park's meadows and acidic bogs. For the full story, see <http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Science/2004/08/15/584673-ap.html>.

Lake Champlain Chapter of Trout Unlimited Granted Funding to Battle Invasives

The Lake Champlain Chapter of Trout Unlimited, located in Ontario, New York, received funding to post 50 signs and twenty-five literature boxes to educate boaters about preventing the spread of aquatic nuisance species. The project was one of nineteen grants supported by the BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety & Clean Water. For the full story, see [http://www.outdoorrelease.com/news_releases/news_detail.asp?ID= 1156](http://www.outdoorrelease.com/news_releases/news_detail.asp?ID=1156).

"Riverscope" Zooms in on Zebra Mussels

A new multi-million dollar project has begun in-depth monitoring of the physical, chemical, and biological conditions in the Hudson River from Piermont Pier in Rockland County to Troy. Part of the project, known as "Riverscope," will be to monitor for zebra mussel larvae. The project is being carried out by state and federal agencies, as well as colleges located along the river, and is the realization of a dream of New York Governor George Pataki to create a

world-class research institute on the Hudson. For the full details, see http://www.troyrecord.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=12738871&BRD=1170&PAG=461&dept_id=7021&rfi=6.

Maine's Least Wanted Aquatic Weeds

Toni Pied of the ME Department of Conservation says purple loosestrife has made the top five list of aquatic invasive species found in the state. Control efforts for the weed include encouraging homeowners to dig up the plants and limited herbicide use. The ME Department of Transportation is also releasing beetles to control larger populations found along roadsides. Milfoil and hydrilla also made the "Least Wanted" list. The Department of Conservation issues notices of the presence of these weeds, triggering lake conservation groups to monitor boats that may carry the plants. For the full story, see <http://rockland.villagesoup.com/Community/Story.cfm?StoryID=25312>.

In Like a Lion, Out Like, Well, Never

NOAA's Undersea Research Center at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, have confirmed that lionfish have become established in the Atlantic. Divers collected 75 fish in two months of sampling, including recently females and juvenile fish. Currently, lionfish are found from Florida to North Carolina, with reports of the fish in Long Island Sound being thought to be due to intrusions of warm Gulf Stream water. Scientists like U.S. Geological Survey fisheries biologist Walter Courtenay are beginning to suspect that the lionfish was introduced from an aquarium that was smashed during Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Courtenay also suspects that dive-boat captains have introduced lionfish off West Palm Beach. For the full story, see http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2002012225_lionfish22.html.

Vermont Senator Puts in an Oar for Hand-Pulling

Vermont Senator James Douglas helped provide media coverage of the state's \$415 million dollar project to eradicate water chestnut from Lake Champlain when he hopped into a canoe to take a look at a hand-pulling project in a bay in West Haven. To read a summary of the coverage, see <http://www.wstm.com/Global/story.asp?S=2196067>.

Wanted: Homes for Bugs

The Vermont Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program is asking volunteers like Lynn and Phil Morgan to raise *Galerucella* beetles used in the project in their homes. The biocontrol program has released more than 330,000 beetles in 136 sites in 59 Vermont towns over the last eight years. This year, four households took part in the beetle-rearing program, and it is hoped that more homes will welcome the beetles in the future. Also as part of the program, letters are written to homeowners who have loosestrife in their gardens, encouraging people to dig up the invasive plant. For the full story, see <http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=2114898>.

\$2.4 Million in Federal Grants for Invasive Species Work

The US Department of the Interior has granted \$2.4 million to help states, local communities, tribes, private landowners, and others combat invasive species. The funding was allocated as part of \$16 million granted through Private Stewardship Grants, Tribal Landowner Incentives, and Tribal Wildlife Grants. Initiatives in the Northeast that received funding include efforts by The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut to restore wetlands by controlling invasive plants at Beeslick Pond and Benton Hill Fen preserves. Environmental Defense, Inc. received funding to restore habitat of the bog turtle in Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania, by controlling invasive plants and other measures. For further details, see <http://www.doi.gov>.

NSERC Asked to Fund Canadian Invasive Network

Professor Hugh MacIsaac of the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research at the University of Windsor has applied for \$7.9 million dollars in funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada to combat invasive species. If funded, the project will bring together experts from 15 universities and federal and provincial scientists to form a Canada-wide research network. For the full story, see http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&c=Article&cid=1091830209857&call_pageid=968256290204&col=968350116795.

B. Coming Soon to a Watershed Near You Upward Bound Looks Down on Invasives

An innovative project run by the Upward Bound Math & Science Center of the Delaware Technical & Community College has provided an opportunity for high school seniors to carry out projects that tackle invasive species like the Japanese beach grass known as Kobo Mugi. The students received small grants through the University of Delaware's Sea Grant Program. Is this idea exportable to the Northeast? For more details <http://www.delmarvanow.com/deweybeach/stories/20040818/1070274.html>.

American Fisheries Society Meeting Highlights Threats to Fish

Invasive species were one of the significant threats to fish discussed at the 134th Meeting of the American Fisheries Society held in Wisconsin last month. During coverage of the meeting, Mike Staggs, director of fisheries management at the Department of Natural Resources, pointed out that the annual \$12 million dollar expenditure on sea lamprey control is not adequate to eliminate the threat posed by lampreys. For more details see <http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/nation/9476557.htm?1c>.

Th Untamed Growth of the Aquatic Garden

The Washington Post published an article last month guiding readers through the perils and pleasures of the backyard aquatic gardening. According to the National Gardening Association, the number of households with a water feature quadrupled from four million to 16 million between 1998 and 2003, with total sales increasing from \$659 million to \$1.5 billion in the same time period. The article might raise the hackles of invasion biologists and managers, as the author expounds on cultivating exotic grasses, fish (koi and goldfish), and tropical lilies. For the full story, see <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A56284-2004Aug11.html>.

Good Neighbors Can Make for Good Biocontrol

A recent article in the Australian newspaper *The Sydney Morning Herald* highlights the use of companion planting as a means of controlling plant pests. The topic is expected to be discussed at the International Congress of Entomology being held in Brisbane, Australia this month. The use of plant-engendered defences was upheld as an alternative for insecticides and genetically modified organisms. For the full story, see <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2004/08/16/1092508373036.html?oneclick=true>.

Chlorine Companions

The companies Ecochlor, Inc. and Eka Chemicals, Inc. have signed an agreement to work together to develop ballast water treatment technologies. Both companies hold patents for systems designed to treat ballast water through the production and use of chlorine oxide. For the full details, see http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/040817/netu019_1.html.

Pigment Trace on Toxic Algae

James Pinckney and Tammie Richardson, scientists at Texas A&M University, have developed an efficient way to use analytical chemistry and a water-filtering techniques to identify the toxic algae called *Karenia brevis*. The technique is based on the fact that *Karenia brevis* contains a pigment that is found in only one or two other species in the Gulf of Mexico. *Karenia brevis* can poison oysters at concentrations as low as five cells per liter, and, if inhaled, cause coughing, sneezing, and temporarily impair breathing in humans. For the full story see <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/science/AP-Red-Tide.html>.

Herbiciding For “Habitat”

The EPA has granted approval for an herbicide called “Habitat” used to control invasive species found in and around standing and flowing water. The chemical attacks enzymes found only in plants and is to be used through direct application to undesirable plants. “Habitat” is believed to be effective in controlling plants such as water hyacinth, phragmites, purple loosestrife, water primrose, giant reed, Chinese tallow tree, and saltcedar. For the full story, see <http://deltafarmpress.com/news/081304-habitat-receives-label/>.

Plain-ly Positive

New ballast water regulations and the expansion of US Conservation Reserves from 34.8 million acres to 39.2 million acres received glowing coverage in *The Plain Speaker*, the newsletter of the Hunters and Anglers Society of America. The article also mentions research on carp tolerance for cold temperatures and its capacity to invade Canadian waters and repeated finds of snakeheads in Philadelphia. To read the story, see <http://www.cleveland.com/sports/plaindealer/index.ssf?/base/sports/1091957438325070.xml>.

Law No Longer Silent on Mute Swans

Mute swans may be elegant birds, but Jonathan McKnight, associate director for invasive species of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources, claims that these non-native birds must be culled. Mute swans chase off native birds and eat vegetation that native species require for food and habitat. A new bill, HR 4114, is proposed that will exclude these and other invasive birds from protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty, and thus making them susceptible to control efforts. The following article contains an interesting description of mute swan control methods, including same sex pairings, as well as arguments put forward by the Fund for Animals against culling the animals. For the full debate, see http://www.abcnews.go.com/sections/SciTech/US/mute_swans_040809-1.html?CMP=OTCRSSFeeds0312.

C. Policy and Legislation

Invasive Techies Unite: The Baltimore Declaration

Participants at the Technical Workshop on the Implementation of a Global Invasive Species Information Network (GISIN) held in Baltimore, Maryland, last April have agreed upon 11 principles aimed at facilitating information gathering and exchange. The resolutions contained in the Baltimore Declaration include a dedication to adopting technologies that require minimal equipment, software, and expertise, and making critical information accessible to managers and others. To read the full declaration, see <http://invasivespecies.nbio.gov/as/BaltimoreDeclaration.pdf>

D. Reports, Publications, and Web-based Resources

Invasive Species Take Over ESA Meeting

An article in *Science* summarizing the annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America (ESA) makes it clear that this year's meeting was overtaken by presentations and posters on invasive species. The debate over whether invasive species out-compete native species due to selection of evolutionarily superior traits in the introduced environment, or the so-called "evolution of increased competitive ability" hypothesis, was highlighted. In a second article on the ESA meeting, Withgott summarizes a study on how inhibiting fire in California may have enhanced the spread of sudden oak disease. For more details, see Withgott, J. 2004. . ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETING: Are invasive species born bad? ? *Science* 2004 305:1100 - 1101. Withgott, J. 2004. ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETING: Fighting Sudden Oak Death With Fire?, *Science* 2004 305:1101.

Cost Control: New Report Analyses the Costs of Weed Eradications

Australia's Bureau of Rural Science has produced a report entitled *Weed Eradications: strategies, timeframes, and costs*, in which authors Gemma Woldendorp and Mary Bomford examined costs associated with twenty eradication efforts from around the world. As might be expected, they found that the success and cost of eradications was correlated with the size of weed patch. Other factors that were important predictors of weed eradication costs and success included the period over which the infestation had occurred, increased total number of infestations, and the total range size of a weed. They also found that aquatic weed eradication cost more than terrestrial ones. To download a copy of the report, see <http://affashop.gov.au/product.asp?prodid=12782>.

TREE Opinion Piece on Biocontrol

An opinion piece in July's *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* (TREE) outlines our current understanding of the evolution of invasive organisms in introduced ranges and the implications of this phenomena for biological control.

Müller-Schärer, H., U. Schaffner and T. Steinger. 2004. Evolution in invasive plants: implications for biological control. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*. 19: 417-422.

Invasive Species Policy: Conservation or Land Grab?

Landowners, cattlemen, sportsmen, recreational vehicle users, property-rights advocates, and representatives from the nursery and seed industry met in Washington D.C. at the beginning of August to express their concerns about policies aimed at combating invasive species. Fifty bills on invasive species were introduced during the last congressional session, and the groups are concerned that invasive species policies will give powers to government that infringe on property rights. For the thought-provoking article, published in *Land Letter*, see <http://indaba.iucn.org/archives/aliens-l/2004-08/00006225.htm>.

PA Field Guide: Common Invasive Plants in Riparian Areas

This field guide produced by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay describes 24 of the most significant invasive plants, vines, shrubs, and trees in Pennsylvania. The guide is designed for use in the field during control efforts. A limited number of waterproof copies are available. To order yours, go to <http://www.acb-online.org/pubs.cfm>.

E. Upcoming Conferences and Events

August 31 – September 2, 2004, Dijon, France

XIIth International Conference on Weed Biology

The XIIth International Conference on Weed Biology will be held Aug 31 - September 2, 2004 in Dijon, France. Information on the conference can be found at

<http://www.dijon.inra.fr/malherbo/AccueilF1.htm>.

September 8, 2004, Plattsburgh, NY *and* September 21, 2004, Buffalo, NY

HACCP Planning for Natural Resources Pathways

The US Fish and Wildlife Service and Lake Champlain and New York Sea Grant programs are hosting two day-long courses on Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) techniques. The course is aimed at teaching bait harvesters and suppliers, hatchery operators, aquaculture representatives, agency staff, and others about reducing the risk of spreading invasives. For more details or to register, please contact any of the following:

- Helen Domske, New York Sea Grant, (716) 645-3610, hmd4@cornell.edu;
- Mike Goehle, US Fish and Wildlife Service, (716) 691-5456, Michael_Goehle@fws.gov; or
- Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant, (518) 564-3038, mark.malchoff@plattsburgh.edu.

September 8 - 10, 2004, Anchorage, AL

2004 Western Regional Panel Annual Meeting

Subjects covered at this meeting will include Atlantic salmon and EEZ aquaculture, climate change opening up new routes and pathways for aquatic nuisance species, challenges with ballast water in the north and presentations on New Zealand mud snails, zebra mussels and new Sea Grant partnership outreach project targeting aquarium hobbyists. For more details, see <http://answest.fws.gov/calendar.htm>.

September 8 – 10, 2004, Bremen, Germany

Ballast Water and Waste Water Treatment Aboard Ships and in Ports

This conference is aimed at bringing together industry, ship owners, academia, governments, maritime, and harbor authorities and shipyard owners to discuss changes in ballast and wastewater technologies and policies. There will also be an opportunity for industry to showcase new treatment technologies. For more information, see http://www.euleandpartners.com/Next_Conference/next_conference.html.

September 12 – 15, 2004, Seattle, WA

2nd National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration

The goals of this year's conference are to expand our ability to restore habitat, build the restoration industry, and catalyze multi-sector collaboration. The schedule includes all-day workshops and field sessions. Poster and presentations will be accepted that fit the following themes: people, practice, science, strategy, policy and funding, evaluation, and a few additional selected topics. For more information, see <http://www.estuaries.org/2ndnationalconference.php>.

September 17 - 21, 2007, Perth, Western Australia

9th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions

Topics to be covered at this conference include studies of the ecological and diversity implications of biological invasions, multi-disciplinary activities focused on prevention and management of invaders, policy, and public education. An invitation is extended to land managers who deal with invasive plants in wetlands and riparian zones, as well as researchers, policy makers, NGOs, industry representatives, and educators. For more details, see <http://www.congresswest.com.au/emapi9>.

September 19 – 23, 2004, Ennis, Ireland

13th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species

The *2004 International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species* will be hosted by Institute of Technology, Sligo, in Ennis, County Clare, Ireland. The conference will cover subjects ranging from policy to invasion ecology to education. Deadline for abstract submission was December 31, 2003. The preliminary program has been posted, and topics to be discussed range from shipping to zebra mussels to education and outreach. Looks like many of bioinvasions' brightest will be there, including the NEANS Panel's own Judith Pederson, Charles O'Neill, and Donna Turgeon along with Shippen Bright, MaryAnn McGarry, Daniel Molloy, and Michelle Harmon. For more information visit <http://www.aquatic-invasive-species-conference.org>.

September 20-23, 2004, Rapid City, SD

12th Annual North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA) Meeting

NAWMA's mission statement is "to provide education, regulatory direction, professional improvement, and environmental awareness to preserve and protect our natural resources from the degrading impacts of exotic, invasive noxious weeds." This year's meeting will include an opportunity to become a Certified Manager of Invasive Plants and a presentation on NASA's Remote Sensing of Invasive Weeds Project. For more details, see <http://www.nawma.org>.

September 20 – 24, 2004, Denver, CO

Monitoring Science and Technology Symposium

This interdisciplinary symposium will bring together policy makers, managers, and scientists to tackle the topic of the monitoring for sustainable economic development. The theme of the meeting is *Unifying Knowledge for Sustainability in the Western Hemisphere*, with an object of identifying the most important information that should be communicated for sustainable development. For more details see <http://www.monitoringsymposium.com/index.cfm>.

September 30 – October 1, 2004, Bern, Switzerland

3rd International Conference on Biological Invasions NEOBIOTA - From Ecology to Control

The topics covered at the upcoming meeting of NEOBIOTA are the ecology of invasive species, impact and risk assessment, and prevention as control. NEOBIOTA is a multidisciplinary group that links researchers with policy makers and conservation groups on issues pertaining to the introduction of alien species. Its focus is mostly on invasive species issues in Central Europe. For more details on the conference see <http://www.neobiota.unibe.ch>.

October 7, 2004, University of Connecticut, Storrs CT

The Silent Invaders: Identification & Management of Invasive Plants

This symposium, hosted by the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG), will focus on identification of invasive plants and control techniques. Deadline for registration is August 31, 2004. For more details, see <http://www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg>.

October 18 to 22, 2004, Vancouver, BC

North American Plant Protection Organization Annual Meeting

This year's meeting will feature a plenary talk by Nobel Laureate Kary Banks Mullis on tools in pest detection. There is a day devoted to industry: government meetings, discussion of the nursery trade, quarantine and certification systems, and invasive species issues. For more details, see <http://www.nappo.org/>.

October 19 - 20, 2004, Fort Collins, CO

2nd International Rodent Summit

The US Department of Agriculture / Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service / Wildlife Services is hosting the second international conference on invasive rodents. Sessions on the agenda include: island rodent eradications, rodenticide risk assessment, and nutria damage and management. For more information, see <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/nwrc/symposia/rodents/index.html>.

October 22 - 23, 2004, New Orleans, LA

Eighth International Wildlife Law Conference

The theme of this year's conference is *Protecting Species in the World's Coastal and Marine Regions: The Role of Law, Science and Management*. Proposals are sought for a variety of ecological policy issues, including invasive species. For further details, see <http://www.internationalwildlifelaw.org/index.shtml>. Proposals and questions should be submitted to: Wil Burns, conference coordinator at jiwlp@internationalwildlifelaw.org or phone: 650.281.9126. Presenters will have their presentations recorded in *the Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy*.

October 26 - 29, 2004, St. Andrews, NB

The Gulf of Maine Summit: Committing to Change

The agenda of the Summit includes setting priorities for the Gulf of Maine Council's 2006-2011 Action Plan, developing tools to help communities act to protect and restore the Gulf of Maine watershed, improving reporting mechanisms and indicators, setting priorities for research, integrating environmental monitoring via the Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System, and improvements to state, provincial, and federal regulatory and planning programs. For more information, see <http://www.gulfofmainesummit.org/about.html>.

November 3 - 5, 2004, Victoria, BC

24th International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society

The theme of this symposium is *Lakes - habitat for fish, habitat for people*. The meeting will have sessions on introduced aquatic species, lake restoration, and managing aquatic plant problems. Dates to remember are: September 17, 2004, early bird registration ends, and October 15, 2004, the last day to register. For more information see <http://www.nalms.org/symposia/victoria/index.htm>.

November 8 - 10, 2004, San Francisco, CA

Third International Conference on Invasive *Spartina*

This conference will focus on the latest research and complex management issues surrounding the intertidal interloper. There will be aerial and ground tours of wetlands, as well as discussion of the hybrid form of *Spartina* that threatens San Francisco's estuary. For more information, please see www.spartina.org.

November 9 - 10, 2004, Saratoga Springs, NY

Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species (NEANS) Panel Meeting

The agenda of this meeting is still being finalized. Please look for updated information at <http://www.neans.org/meetings.htm>.

November 15 - 19, 2004, Cape Town, South Africa

XIth International Conference on Harmful Algae

This year's conference will focus on the topics of taxonomy and biogeography, population dynamics, physiology, biochemistry, and monitoring and management of harmful algal

blooms. Deadline for abstract submission is May 31, 2004. For more details, please see <http://www.botany.uwc.ac.za/pssa/hab2004>.

November 17 - 30, 2004, Bangkok, Thailand

3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress

World Conservation Union (IUCN) meeting has “invasive species of the world’s waters” as one of the major themes for the marine section. For more details see <http://www.iucn.org/congress/index.cfm>.

November 29, 2004, Winnipeg, MB

Canadian Weed Science Society Meeting

For more details, contact Gary Turnbull, Dow AgroSciences Canada, Inc., 39 Scurfield Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3Y 1G4, Tel: (204) 488-5757, Fax: (204) 488-5788. The website of the Canadian Weed Science Society is <http://www.cwss-scm.ca/>.

December 6 - 10, 2004, Orlando, FL

First National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration (NCER)

The first conference on ecological restoration will bring together people dealing with all aspects of ecosystem restoration. Focus topics include: Science Synthesis and Scaling, Detecting Change Across Scales, Planning Restoration, Adaptive Management, Effective Science Communication Within and Beyond Restoration Programs, and National Priorities for Ecosystem Restoration. For more information, see <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/ecosystem>.

February 7 – 10, 2005, Honolulu, HI

Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting

Few details are available yet, but for more information, contact Rhonda Green at rgreen@allenpress.com. The Weed Science Society of America’s website is <http://www.wssa.net/society.html>.

April 4 – 6, 2006, St. Louis, MO

Fifth National Integrated Pest Management Symposium

Fifth National Integrated Pest Management Symposium, *Delivering on a Promise*, will explore the latest methods in controlling pests in a variety of settings. For up-to-date information on the symposium, visit the website: <http://www.ipmcenters.org/ipmsymposium>. To receive future notices about the symposium, send your e-mail address to ipmsymposium@ad.uiuc.edu.

April 19 - 20, 2005, Reno, NV

Invasive Species: Their Ecological Impacts and Alternatives for Control

The focus of this meeting is the monitoring and assessment of invasive species. Topics covered will include prevention of the introduction and spread of invasives, identification of standards to meet technical and regulatory requirements, and identifying invasive species research needs. For more details see <http://www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/index.shtml?L+mystore+cxpl5647>.

E. Other – Funding Opportunities

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s “Pulling Together Initiative”

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has announced its 2005 Request for Proposals in its “Pulling Together Initiative” (PTI). Grants will be given to support the formation of local Weed Management Area (WMA) partnerships. Pre-proposals are due

October 29, 2004. For more information about application deadlines, program priorities, and detailed instructions regarding application procedures, visit the NFWF PTI website, <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/pti.htm>.