

VT Invasive Exotic Plant Advisory Committee Meeting

9.28.23

9am-Noon

Participation in person at Waterbury State Office Complex and virtually via Teams

In person attendance: Bonnie Donahue (VTRANS), Kim Jensen (ANR-DEC), Mike Bald (Industry), Katie Kain (US F&W), Emilie Inoue (VAAFM), Stephanie Smith (VAAFM), Ben Dillner (VAAFM), Judy Rosovsky (VAAFM)

Virtual attendance: Paul Wiezorack(VNLA rep), Ann Hazelrigg (UVM-Extension), Kathy Decker (ANR-FPR proxy), Kathryn Aorian (USDA PPQ), Caitlin Cusack (VLT), Grace Glynn (ANR-F&W)

Updates:

Mike- Japanese stiltgrass; vines thriving: bittersweet, poison ivy, swallowwort- follow rail lines everywhere; managing knotweed in flood areas

Bonnie (VTRANS)- new veg mgmt. person/ pesticide BMPs,

Kim- very abundant aquatics due to floods/ nutrients, water chestnut very high pops, hydrilla in Connecticut River, Act 57 pesticide use study- aquatic herbicides, 2 new aquatic invasive positions, more \$ from legislature

Katie- USFW: woody invasive control, knotweed & knapweed

Caitlin- VLT, outreach, SE VT Cisma

Kathryn- filling in some field work, timber exports, VT/ NH SPHD

Ann- UVM, busy with veg farms, wetness related disease, early defoliations for apples/ birch; soil pathogens- phytophthora

Paul- small nursery in Hinesburg,

Kathy- FPR; pale swallowwort response with Burlington and VAAFM; MuniDay; mapping tools for invasive plants

VAAFM- only one stop sale of invasive ornamentals (Crimson Sunset Maple), jumping worms- outreach BMPs, many reports, research; pale swallowwort response- City of Burlington/ VAAFM/ Fish and Wildlife/ FPR- delimiting survey, outreach and education- PSA; Noxious weeds FAQs

PRA Discussion and Review

The Form- 8 sections required by rule; approach for filling out form, reviewing ahead of time; simplification

Bohemian Knotweed- should be called the knotweed complex; may be more invasive than parent species; but each species could have their own PRA; lumping and splitting- add to existing knotweed PRA? PRA review- how to deal with hybrids, rule needs to cover hybrids with any listed species

Kim Jensen makes Motion to add Bohemian knotweed as addendum to Japanese knotweed on Class B noxious weed list. Bonnie seconded the Motion. Members unanimously recommend the Motion.

Giant knotweed- wait until next time

Rosa multiflora- now widespread in VT, rootstock and cultivar issue (in nursery trade)- note that they are allowed under rule in Appendix B

Bonnie: Motion to add *Rosa multiflora* to Class B noxious weed list. Mike: seconded. Recommendation is unanimous.

Kim: Motion to recommend to move pale swallowwort from Class A to B noxious weed list. Bonnie second. Recommendation is unanimous.

Break

Open Discussion and Updates around rule

Summary of Noxious Weed Rule, not a rapid process to add plants- most legally sound

Adding a species like Kudzu to Appendix in Rule

Or designating a weed as a plant pest and then requiring a permit to transport (request to Secretary)

Disconnect list of species from Noxious Weed Rule? Does require rulemaking

Most effective use of rule- plants moving through nursery trade, preventing general transport, management plans

Watchlist? Purpose, process- how to add plants to list, flow of plants from Watchlist to Class A/ B;

Next meeting will focus on reviewing remaining PRAs that are almost complete. Afternoon session will focus on items that are technically outside of the committee's scope of responsibilities.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, Jan. 11th 9am-noon.