

MEETING MINUTES

South Carolina Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force
9:00 A.M., February 8, 2007
Classroom
SCDNR Marine Resources Research Institute
217 Fort Johnson Rd., Charleston, SC

<u>No.</u>	<u>In Attendance:</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
1.	Tom Abrahamsen	USGS SC Water Science Center	tabraham@usgs.gov
2.	Susan Wilde	USC/ SCDNR	wildes@dnr.sc.gov
3.	Stephen Compton	Department of Plant Industry	scompto@CLEMSON.EDU
4.	Braxton Davis	SCDHEC/OHRM	davisbc@dhec.sc.gov
5.	Steve deKozlowski	SCDNR	dekozlowskis@dnr.sc.gov
6.	Mary G. Douglass	USDA, APHIS	Mary.g.douglass@aphis.usda.gov
7.	Alan Dean	US Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District	
8.	Ed EuDaly	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	ed_eudaly@fws.gov
9.	Larry Feller	SC Landscape Association	larry.feller@syngenta.com
10.	Ken Glenn	USDA - APHIS-PPQ	William.k.glenn@aphis.usda.gov
11.	Mike Hook	SCDNR	HookP@dnr.sc.gov
12.	David Knott	Marine Resources Research Institute- Southeastern Regional Taxonomic Center	KnottD@dnr.sc.gov
13.	Billy Lempesis	SC State Ports Authority	BLempesis@SCSPA.com
14.	Jenn ORourke	SC Wildlife Federation	jenno@scwf.org
15.	Keith Nell	Port of Charleston	knell@scspa.com
16.	Chris Page	SCDNR	PageC@dnr.sc.gov
17.	Jennifer Gruber	SC Department of Transportation	gruberjd@scdot.org
18.	Jamie Dykes	US Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District	
19.	Denise Sanger	SC Sea Grant Consortium	denise.sanger@scseagrant.org
20.	Kelly Jo Swygert	SC Department of Transportation	swygertkj@scdot.org
21.	Chris Thomason	SCDNR	ThomasonC@dnr.sc.gov

1. Call To Order

Steve de Kozlowski, Assistant Deputy Director of Land, Water and Conservation Division, SCDNR welcomed the task force and thanked David Knott and the Marine Center for hosting the day's meeting.

David Whittaker, Assistant Deputy Director of Marine Resources Division, SCDNR spoke briefly about the push for better, stronger regulations to help combat the growing tidal wave of invasive species threats we face in the future.

Minutes of the November 30 meeting were reviewed; some minor corrections were made including clarification of the USGS graphs and a simple wording change in the Pathways of Introductions section.

De Kozlowski indicated that the appendices need more work and are a work in progress. He asked members to continue to send comments on the first part of the plan. The latest version of the plan is posted on the SC AIS web site and encouraged members to reference the site for updates and task force information.

2. Overview of State Management Goals and Objectives and Development of Management Goals and Objectives for South Carolina- Marilyn Barrett-O'Leary, ANS State Coordinator, Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership.

Barrett-O'Leary gave a presentation, which included what to consider in wording an overall goal and in writing objectives. Goals should be an ideal target; it should stretch state capabilities. Objectives should be more specific, attainable, and measurable. She reviewed examples of other state goals and objectives. She then facilitated the writing of the goals and objectives for the SC AIS plan by first identifying the main AIS impact concerns for South Carolina. Which were as follows:

AIS Concerns

Natural Environment

- Displacement of native species
- Degradation of aesthetic value
- Changes in water quality
- Habitat loss
- Reduction of biodiversity

Economic Environment

- Disruption of power production
- Trade restrictions
- Loss of tourism
- Negative impact on commercial fisheries
- Adverse impacts on water use activities
- Control costs

After discussion of several different suggested goals the following overarching goal was written and agreed upon by the group.

Goal:

Prevent and control the introduction, spread, and impact of aquatic invasive species in South Carolina.

The task force then worked on developing objectives. Some of the major groupings from the other states in the Southeast are:

- Education
- Regulation/Legislation
- Control/Management
- Communication
- Prevention
- Research

Discussion focused on keeping the wording simple, clear and concise to aid in communicating to public and legislators. Prevention is included in most state plans but could be covered by other management objectives, such as education and coordination. It was important to specifically include funding as an objective. Out of this discussion the group decided on the following list of objectives.

Objectives:

- Increase the coordination of AIS management and communication activities.
- Educate the public on AIS, their impacts, and how they can help.
- Monitor occurrence and spread of AIS
- Eradicate established invasive species
- Manage invasive species when eradication is impossible.
- Identify research priorities on impacts and control of AIS.
- Strengthen legislative and regulatory authority
- Secure long-term funding for AIS activities

3. Other business

a. Homework assignments

- i. De Kozlowski will send out the goal and objectives for review by the task force. He asked that members review and comment on wording within two weeks.
- ii. Develop strategies (action items) for each objective; include estimated cost and timing for implementation. Send in or have available for next meeting.
- iii. Continue to review first part of plan and send comments in within two weeks so we can finalize that section.

b. Next meeting

- Date – March 29, 2007
- Location – Columbia, possibly Congaree National Park

c. Other stuff – de Kozlowski informed the task force that the Draft State Aquatic Plant Management Plan was out for public review and comment until March 7. The plan includes proposed maintenance stocking of triploid grass carp in the Santee Cooper Lakes. The draft plan can be access at the AIS web site.

4. Adjourn for Lunch

Adjourned for lunch at 12:15