

MEETING MINUTES

**South Carolina Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force
9:00 A.M., May 24, 2007
Second Floor
SC Sea Grant Consortium
287 Meeting Street
Charleston, SC**

<u>No.</u>	<u>In Attendance:</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
1.	Jen Rawlings	Riverbanks Zoo	
2.	Susan Wilde	USC/ SCDNR	wildes@dnr.sc.gov
3.	Mark Messersmith	SCDHEC-OCRM	messermj@dhec.sc.gov
4.	Donna Foster	SC Nursery& Landscape Assoc.	scplant@bellsouth.net
5.	Steve deKozlowski	SCDNR	dekozlowkis@dnr.sc.gov
6.	Ken Manuel	Duke Energy	kmanuel@duke-energy.com
7.	David Wilkins	SC Aquarium	
8.	Ed EuDaly	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	ed_eudaly@fws.gov
9.	Jack Whetstone	Clemson/DNR/Sea Grant	
10.	Arpita Choudhury	NOAA	Arpita.choudhury@noaa.gov
11.	Mike Hook	SCDNR	Hookm@dnr.sc.gov
12.	David Knott	Marine Resources Research Institute- Southeastern Regional Taxonomic Center	KnottD@dnr.sc.gov
13.	Jeanne Riley	USFS	jriley@fs.fed.us
14.	Chris Page	SCDNR	pagec@dnr.sc.gov
15.	Denise Sanger	SC Sea Grant Consortium	denise.sanger@scseagrant.org
16.	Chris Thomason	SCDNR	ThomasonC@dnr.sc.gov

1. Call To Order

Steve de Kozlowski, Assistant Deputy Director, LWC Division, SCDNR welcomed the task force and thanked the SC Sea Grant for hosting the day's meeting.

Minutes of the March 29, 2007 meeting were reviewed and were approved as written with some minor changes.

2. Denise Sanger, Assistant Director for Research and Planning, SC Sea Grant Consortium, What does it have to do with aquatic invasive species?

Sea grant created in 1980 and is part of the national network. Priorities are research oriented in regional approaches. SC sea grant is one of the unique programs in that it includes educational institutions and state agencies. Funding options include assistance to institutions and agencies for submitting RFP's and grant proposals. Currently there are 15 major program grants and over 100 grant actions totaling 4.5 million dollars.

One of the strategies for the goals of the 4 major programmatic areas is to identify and remedy the impact of invasive species on the coastal ecosystem and economy of South Carolina. Most of the associated costs for startup activities can be derived from Sea Grant funding. A new proposal for ecological impacts of climate change, invasive species, and land use change are currently under going the grant process and major topics of interest within Sea Grant.

Jack Whetstone added information about overlapping symposiums on marine invasive species tranfers in Seattle, Washington and past cooperation with agencies on *Salvinia molesta* eradication in SC.

Global climate change issues include sea level rise, temperature increase, salinity increase, landuse change, habitat change and invasive species. Global climate change in relation to invasive species was discussed by members present. Caution is urged when dealing with these issues as they are a controversial issue.

3. Development of Management Strategies for South Carolina

The group continued to work on action items for objective 6, 7 and 8of the management goals. Some of the objectives were reworded to better reflect the groups' concerns. Specific action items were developed and the verbiage was documented.

Changes were made to previous sections and are reflected below. Objective 6 was changed to Identify and implement needed research on impacts and control of AIS. Objective 4 was changed to reflect new wording to develop early detection/rapid response protocols for AIS and it was suggested that SARP or some entity develop a tiered system of expert contacts. Discussion was continuous throughout the process.

Objectives discussed:

Objective 6. Identify and implement needed research on impacts and control of AIS.

Action Item #	Description	Implementing Agency	Current Status	Funding Source	Recent Efforts	Planned Effort		
						FY08	FY09	FY10

6A	Study life histories of AIS that occur in or threaten SC							
6Ai	Study environmental and economic impacts							
6B	Identify and investigate environmental tolerances of AIS							
6C	Investigate management and control alternatives for SC AIS							
6D	Identify priority research in coordination with regional organizations, ie GSARP, SARP (by SCAIS taskforce)							
6Di	Survey stakeholders and scientists							
6E	Create clearinghouse for AIS research in SC							
6Ei	Hold periodic workshops to share research information							
6Eii	Identify existing literature							

Objective 7. Strengthen legislative and regulatory authority

Action Item #	Description	Implementing Agency	Current Status	Funding Source	Recent Efforts	Planned Effort		
						FY08	FY09	FY10
7A	Review existing federal and state legislation and regulations to identify needed changes (inconsistencies and gaps)	Clemson U./ Dept. of Ag/ SCDNR						
7B	Propose needed legislation and modify existing regulations							
7Bi	Coordinate State legislative authority							
7Bia	Increase penalties and fines	Clemson U./ Dept. of Ag/ SCDNR						
7Bib	Increase regulatory authority in existing legislation	Clemson U./ Dept. of Ag/ SCDNR						
7Bic	Create regulations regarding the aquarium and pet trade	SC Dept. of Ag/ SCDHEC						
7Bid	Develop or modify regulations regarding Aquascaping Industry	SCDNR/SC Dept of AG/ SCDHEC						
7Bie	Develop or modify regulations regarding Aquaculture	SCDNR						
7Bii	Coordinate Federal Legislative authority							
7Biia	Develop or modify regulations regarding the aquarium and pet trade	USDA – APHIS PPQ / USCG						
7Biib	Develop or modify regulations regarding shipping	USDA – APHIS PPQ / USCG						
7Biic	Develop or modify regulations regarding Aquascaping Industry	USDA – APHIS PPQ / USCG						
7Biid	Develop or modify regulations regarding Aquaculture	SC SeaGrant Consortium						
7C	Educate state and federal law enforcement officials							
7D	Educate public and private stakeholders on new and existing laws							
7E	Encourage enforcement of existing AIS laws and regulations							
7F	Periodic review of efficacy of legislation and regulations							

7G	Coordinate legislation with neighboring states							
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Objective 8. Secure funding for AIS activities

Action Item #	Description	Implementing Agency	Current Status	Funding Source	Recent Efforts	Planned Effort		
						FY08	FY09	FY10
8A	Short term							
8Ai	Identify grant opportunities	SeaGrant/NRCS/ USFWS/USGS/ USCOE						
8Ai1	Federal	SCDNR						
8Ai2	State	SCDNR						
8Ai3	Local							
8Ai4	Private industry							
8Ai5	Nonprofit							
8Aii	Work together to secure grants through cooperative applications							
8B	Long term							
8Bi	Secure recurring funding via legislative action in state agency budget							
8Bia	User fees ieTrailer Tax	All State Agencies						
8Bii	Seek federal funding to support statewide AIS activities	All						
8Biiia	USACOE – aquatic plant control program							
8Biiib	Identify existing funding in cooperating AIS taskforce agencies dedicated to AIS activities							
8Biiiaa	Water recreation funds	SCDNR						

4. Other business

- a. Homework assignments
 - i. Add specific action items to implementation table
 - ii. Continue to send comments on existing plans

- b. Next meeting
 - Date: August 23, 2007
 - Location: Columbia, US Forest Service
 - Speaker – TBD

5. Adjourn for Lunch

Adjourned for lunch at 12:10