Cal-IPC Working Group - Aquatics

Thursday October 7, 2004

Topic Leader: Lars Anderson
Group Facilitator: Katy Zaremba
Note Takers: Julie Owen and Holly Crosson

Suggested Aquatics Discussion Topics:

1. State Aquatic Invasive Species Plan – Push to finalize
2. New species of concern
3. Implement Wolk's Invasive Species council legislation
4. Support of "Habitattitude" program – Cal-IPC as a partner?
5. West Nile Virus and aquatic weed management
6. New IR-4 initiative to expand to irrigation and lake/reservoir sites as "minor uses" – Cal-IPC support letter?
7. "CANIPIT" – a California Rapid Response Action Plan
    a. "CA Non-native Invasive Pest Intervention Team"
8. How can Cal-IPC get involved?

Meeting Notes:

Introductions

Other suggested meeting topics:

- Who are the regulatory agencies for aquatic weed control?
- How do we deal with native invasions?
    - Cal-IPC could help with outreach to private landowners
- Herbicides used for aquatics
    - Fluridone
    - Trilogy
    - Glyphosate
    - Acrolein – used in irrigation canals
    - Imazapyr – riparian systems, some aquatics
        i. Not registered yet. May be approved in California in near future.
    - Copper
    - Diquat
    - 2, 4-D
    - Endothall
    - Aquathall
    - Note: bio-control programs not discussed today
    - Lars suggested interested individual look to web for more information
- Species Discussed:
    - Eurasian watermilfoil
        a. Found all over California, including Lake Tahoe

b. 200 acres in Lake Tahoe where the regulatory agencies are stopping treatment
c. No herbicides in the lake, dredging is a possible form of control

- *Spartina spp.*
    a. 4 species in the SF Bay
        i. *S. alterniflora*-hybrid spreading fastest
        ii. *S. densiflora* in Humboldt Bay
    b. Invasive Spartina Project
        i. Grant funded project based at the Coastal Conservancy
            1. discussing forming joint powers or non-profit
        ii. Large regional project
        iii. Coordinates *Spartina* control in San Francisco Bay
        iv. 2001 – mapped 500 net acres, 2000 estimated in 2004
        v. EIR finalized
        vi. 2004 first coordinated control season
            1. 16 demonstration projects
            2. 250 acres
                a. Primarily spray treatments, other manual methods (covering, digging, excavation) at small infestation sites

- Ludwigia
    a. Aquatic shrub from Uruguay
    b. Yellow water primrose
    c. Perennial stem/runners
    d. Runner root at nodes
        i. Spreads easily by fragmentation
    e. Dense mat smothers
    f. Freshwater emergent
    g. Control methods:
        i. Primarily herbicides, mechanical methods may spread propagules
    h. 150 acre infestation within 14 mile watershed in Sonoma
        i. Became an issue 18 month ago due to mosquito related problems
        ii. Ludwigia task force convened: multiple landowners/managers/stakeholders
            e.g. CDFG, Sonoma Co. Water, NOAA, Water Board

1. Still squabbling over jurisdiction and liability
2. Public hysteria over West Nile Virus vs. the use of herbicides to control the weed

i. Working group suggests Cal-IPC could help educate the community on the relative impact of spreading invasive species and herbicides

- *Caluerpa*

a. Example of a rapid response program
   i. $5 million program
   ii. Successful if they can declare eradication next year
   iii. 9 species banned in CA.
   iv. Cal-IPC could help with legislation, or encourage constituencies.

Topic Discussions:

1. State Aquatic Invasive Species Plan – Push to finalize
   - Plan is written and sitting at DFG
   - Draft AIS Management Plan was submitted to CDFG on schedule in September of 2003 where it is still under internal review. A release date for general public and broader agency review is not known.
     - Need to get a large number of groups to call the Governor to find out the status of the AIS Management Plan and put pressure on to get review.
     - Cal-IPC could help sponsor a letter writing campaign

2.New species of concern
   - Ludwigia

3.Implement Wolk's Invasive Species council legislation
   - What is the status of the Lois Wolk bill? Cal IPC follow up?
   - Note: Bill was vetoed - So no agency-"coordinating" mandate for all CA-invasive species.

4. Support of "Habitattitude" program – Cal-IPC as a partner?
   - Holly Crosson attending national trade show for the nursery and aquarium industries
   - Joint project with the USFWS, National Seagrant, and industry (Wal-Mart, Pet Co and others)
   - Goal is to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasives
     - Create responsible consumers
   - Message: "Don't Release"
     - Focus on proper disposal, alternatives to dumping
     - Doesn't define natives or invasives nor does it support restriction on sales

- Groups suggests that Cal-IPC could be a partner
- Cal-IPC could expand it into Alternatives Brochure???

5. West Nile Virus and aquatic weed management
   - It was suggested that the public health agencies should broaden their spectrum.
   - Weed control efforts should partner with mosquito abatement district for support.
   - Cal-IPC may be able to assist with a letter educating public health agencies and mosquito abatement districts on the connection between aquatic weed control and mosquito prevention.

6. New IR-4 initiative to expand to irrigation and lake/reservoir sites as "minor uses" – Cal-IPC support letter?
   - IR 4 (Interregional Program- has four Regional Centers- including one at UC Davis): Traditionally has supported data-acquisition (primarily crop-tolerance) on herbicides for minor crops. The proposal is to include two new areas: (1) weed management in irrigation systems, and (2) weed management in lake/reservoir systems.
   - Cal-IPC should support this process for expansion of registrations for herbicide use to control aquatic and riparian weeds

- IR 4: Minor use herbicides for minor crops
- Cal-IPC may be able to use this process for minor agriculture weeds
  - Cal-IPC could write a support letter

7. "CANIPIT" – a California Rapid Response Action Plan
   "CA Non-native Invasive Pest Intervention Team"
   - Have information before invasive species arrive
     - Modes of spread, modes of control
   - Agencies should be primed for action
     - Run a "fire drill"
       - Identify:
         - Likely invaders
         - Required permits/authority
         - Action(s) to take
         - Established monitoring plan
   - USDA has a model with fruit fly and zebra mussel
   - Lars Anderson and Mark Sytsma have a small grant to "pilot-test" this approach (NIPITS) for two weeds: *Trapa natans* (Water chestnut) and *Potamogeton crispus* (Curlyleaf pondweed) or *Lagarosiphon major* (Oxygen weed).
   - Senate Bill 1573 – new invasive species council
     - The status of progress on the formation of an Aquatic Invasive Species Council pursuant to SB 1573, which passed in 2002, is not known at this time

8. How can Cal-IPC get involved?

- Create an online network of experts who are available and willing to assist and share information and experience,
    - List experts by topic
    - Perhaps Cal-IPC membership renewal form could ask for applicant's area of expertise and if the individual would allow CAL-IPC to post their name and contact information.
- Next Cal-IPC Symposium: more topics on aquatic weeds

Make sure Cal-IPC has a link to APMS and WAPMS on their website