

Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop: Exploring the Organisms in Trade Vector

June 10-11, 2008
Hilton Garden Inn - Detroit Metro Airport
Romulus, Michigan
734-727-6000

Objectives

1. Assess the significance of the organisms in trade (OIT) vector in potential aquatic invasive species (AIS) introduction, establishment and spread in the Great Lakes region, including:
 - a. Activities and operations specific to organisms in trade pathways, including points at which the risks of invasive species introduction or spread may be the highest and why; and at which points these risks can be managed and how.
 - b. Programs/tools that are being implemented or developed to reduce the risk of invasion (e.g., education and outreach, voluntary best management practices, information technology, regulation and enforcement), including what is has/has not worked and what more is still needed.
2. Gain a better understanding of the OIT vector and activities associated with each pathway, including:
 - a. Industries involved in OIT, how they operate, and practices that may lead to or help mitigate AIS introduction and spread.
 - b. Consumer behaviors that may contribute to or help mitigate AIS introduction and spread.
 - c. Information gaps and needs that could reduce the potential of AIS introduction and spread through activities associated with OIT.
3. Review the best available science on the relative risks posed by each invasion pathway in order to inform strategies to reduce OIT risks.
4. Find common areas of concern among industry, managers and other stakeholders to provide direction and build the partnerships needed to effectively address invasions risks associated with OIT.
5. Explore potential options for addressing threats from the OIT vector through information technology and management applications.

Agenda

Day 1: Tuesday, June 10, 2008

- 8:00 AM** **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00 AM** **Welcome, Introductions & Agenda Review**
- 9:10 AM** **Workshop framework: Defining the challenges associated with the trade of live organisms in the Great Lakes region**
- Tim Eder, Executive Director, Great Lakes Commission
- 9:40 AM** **Understanding OIT Pathways**
- Moderators:** Kathe Glassner-Shwayder and Tom Crane, Great Lakes Commission
- Presentations and discussion on various pathways included in OIT. Overview presentations will be based on input from a team of individuals, including: pathway & industry experts, policy makers, resource managers and outreach specialists to provide an overview of various pathways that are part of the live organism trade.

- (9:40AM) Aquaculture Pathway
- Ted Batterson, North Central Regional Aquaculture Center
 - Paul Zajicek, National Association of State Aquaculture Coordinators
- (10:40AM) Live Bait Pathway
- Nick Mandrak, Canadian Centre of Expertise for Aquatic Risk Assessment, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - Gary Whelan, Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources – Fisheries Division
 - Ron Kinnunen, Michigan Sea Grant College Program
 - Beth Brownson, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- (11:40AM) Live Food Fish Pathway
- Becky Cudmore, Canadian Centre of Expertise for Aquatic Risk Assessment, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- 12:30 PM LUNCH** (buffet provided)
- 1:30 PM Understanding OIT Pathways - continued**
- (1:30PM) Aquarium/Pet Pathway
- Jamie Reaser, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
- (2:30PM) Horticulture and Water Garden Pathway
- Amy Frankmann, Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association
- 3:30 PM BREAK**
- 3:45 PM Discussion: Moving Forward on OIT**
- Moderator:** Tim Eder, Great Lakes Commission
- Identify key gaps, impediments and solutions toward development of more consistent management of OIT to prevent future aquatic invasions, including identifying information gaps or inconsistent/inaccurate information.
 - Explore how operational elements of trade (marketing, sales, transport, end use) conducted across OIT pathways could be improved to reduce risk of AIS invasions.
 - Explore how we can encourage consumers to act responsibly.
 - Determine priority areas where industry, resource managers and consumers can work together to reduce the risks posed by the OIT vector.
 - Assess how information technology and data base management can be applied in the development/implementation of feasible solutions to the OIT problems.
- 5:00 PM Adjourn for day**
- 5:30 PM Reception** (light hors d' oeuvres and cash bar)

Day 2: Wednesday, June 11, 2008

- 7:30 AM Continental Breakfast**
- 8:15 AM Overview of Relevant Information Technologies (IT): Trends and Challenges**
- Roger Gauthier, Great Lakes Commission

Overview and discussion on existing and emerging technologies (e.g., data discovery, data dissemination, geospatial/GIS, search engines, web crawlers), focusing on the importance of information integration to aquatic invasive species management.

9:15 AM IT Applications for Invasive Species Management

Nonindigenous Species Database Network (NISbase) & Global Invasive Species Information Network (GISIN)

- Shawn Dalton, U.S. Geological Survey

Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information System (GLANSIS)

- Rochelle Sturtevant, Great Lakes Sea Grant Network

10:15 AM Questions / Discussion

10:30 AM BREAK

10:45 AM Discussion: Leveraging IT to Manage OIT

Questions for discussion include:

- What information resources (e.g., databases, online materials) exist, or are under development, that could minimize OIT problems of concern?
- What new IT tools (e.g., Internet search engines, data mining) should be leveraged on a regional scale to minimize OIT problems of concern?
- What are the current limitations to region-wide implementation of IT tools to support OIT prevention and management?

12:00 PM LUNCH (box lunch provided)

1:00 PM Wrap-up Discussion: Future Directions for IT Applications to Advance OIT Management

Moderators: Tim Eder and Roger Gauthier, Great Lakes Commission

- How do we overcome the current limitations holding back regional IT integration to support OIT prevention and management?
- How do we engage stakeholders in applying IT for OIT prevention and management?

2:00 PM Review Next Steps / Action Items

2:15 PM ADJOURN