

Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council General Meeting, July 15, 2006

Rum Creek DNR Non-Game Office.

Attending:

Jim Allison	Elaine Nash
Chuck Bargeron	Gil Nelson
Timothy Doly	Rich Reaves
Connie Gray	Alex Reynolds
Danielle Green	Phillip Sacco
Malcolm Hodges	Terry Sutton
Lisa Kruse	Cynthia Taylor
Carol Littge	Andy Turner
Mincy Moffett	Gary Wade
Gretchen Musser	

1. Connie called the meeting to order 10:05 a.m.

Welcome and introductions.

2. Jim Hanula- Privet Control Project:

- Sites on Oconee River (Chinese privet covers 59% of Upper Oconee River floodplain)
- Goals: Compare two types of removal (hand clearing/herbicide application and gyro tractor mulch/herbicide follow up foliar spray) and control area (target desired future conditions (DFC) site)
- Raise Public awareness through interpretive signs on heavily used site
- Over 10 years will study effects of privet on tree growth, native animals (insects, small mammals, herps), how the native plant community recovers, comparison to DFC
- Gyro Tractor cost \$650 an acre, 2-3 acres per day, easy follow up spray
- Hand clearing cost \$250 an acre + herbicide, 5-8 acres a day, difficult follow up due to debris on ground
- Bio control testing being done for privet, some possibilities being tested

3. Chuck Bargeron- SE-EPPC Invasive Mapping Project

- Purpose of the project is to get an accurate picture of the distribution of invasive species throughout the south starting with existing data and creating new data.
- Starts with PLANTS database, based on herbarium data, and share back with them. Also Federal Noxious Weeds data, working on getting FIA data. .
- Listings by county occurrence, with point data for certain species of concern using GPS and digital camera. Each record is tied to the individual who submitted the data. Herbarium samples for verification where possible.
- www.se-eppc.org/mapping Interactive web-based mapping with Flash Player and Google Earth mapping. Each state chapter will work out how information can be submitted (i.e. train the trainer sessions, identification workshops, board members, not general public) and have a coordinator who can question or verify data.

4. General Updates and Needs

- **GA-EPPC's involvement in Mapping Project**
 - Connie suggests Atlanta area mapping team to begin working together to learn the system and collect data
 - Do we need to schedule a workshop for GA?
 - Add as a field component to September workshop?

- **SE-EPPC Symposium 2007 March 20-22, Georgia Center Athens, GA**
 - Logistics Committee: Elaine, Cynthia, Gary, Danielle
 - Programming Committee: Chris, John Taylor, Connie, Lisa Kruse
 - Initial Meeting (both committees) Thurs, Sept 14th, 10:00am
 - Suggestions: get the info out, corporate sponsorships, Gary- university buses for trips

- **Next Invasive Plant Control Workshop September 16th in Macon**

- **Scheduling Workshops for 2007- need committee**
 - 2 per year: 1) GGIA Annual Conference, January 24-26, 2007, 4 hour track, 2) March as part of symposium, 3) September? South?

- **Board of Directors vacancy**
 - 1 opening when Brighten leaves in September

- **Potential Book Project**
 - UGA Press interested in publishing a book about invasives

- **Alternatives list**
 - List being developed by Georgia Green Industry Association (GGIA)
 - Natives and Exotics, readily available
 - GA-EPPC List Committee will review

5. Nathan Klaus- Switchgrass for Erosion Control

6. Field Trip to Privet Control Areas