

South Central Invasives Partnership (SCIP)

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SCIP Launch Event

Remote via Zoom | Thursday, April 22, 2021 | 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Attendees: Paul Roemer, Bill Keen, Kelly Kearns, Rob Luzynski, Max Blackbourn, Spencer Kellum, Shelby Adler, Melissa Schlupp, Zachary Loftus, Christopher Gaetzke, Susan Lehnhardt, Hannah Bunting, Matt Wallrath, Wade Moder

Agenda for CISMA Launch Event

1. Welcome & Introductions

- a. Intro Hannah Bunting & Matt Wallrath
- b. Intro Upper Sugar
 - i. The Upper Sugar River Watershed Association is an environmental nonprofit organization located in Mt Horeb, WI and our mission is to provide leadership for continuous resource improvement through strategic partnerships that benefit the watershed's land, water and people.
- c. Intro SCIP
 - i. Upper Sugar is the current umbrella organization for the South Central Invasives Partnership (SCIP). For those of you who are new to CISMAs, or Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas, they are local organizations that bring together landowners, land managers, and citizens to coordinate action and share expertise and resources to manage invasive species. SCIP covers the 5-county region of Sauk, Iowa, Lafayette, Green and Dane. The goal is to assist participating organizations and landowners in sharing knowledge, resources, priorities, and coordination to more effectively manage invasive species in the region.
- d. Intro attendees: name, organization, role
 - i. Please share in the chat your name, organization, and role.

2. Guest Speaker: Christopher Gaetzke, Executive Director of the Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership

- a. Intro Chris
- b. Chris Gaetzke is the Executive Director of the Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership, or LCIP. LCIP is a CISMA that serves the Wisconsin counties of Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin and Pierce. The mission of LCIP is to control invasive plants by fostering partner cooperation and community action. Let's hear from Chris!

- c. Briefed the group on the progression of LCIP including how they began, funding sources, assembling leadership, creating interest within the community, and finding the unique areas of need in their area.
- d. What is LCIP working on?
 - i. Creating and sharing informational folders with handouts customized to various stakeholder groups. (i.e. landowners, farmers, citizens.)
- e. Questions
 - i. What role does LCIP play in filling needs that have not already been addressed?
 - 1. LCIP connected with local land & water conservation departments, local DNR staff, and other citizens and organizations working in invasive species management to learn what was needed.
 - ii. LCIP acts as a resource center and shares resources specific to local needs/locations.
 - iii. What are the networking opportunities across the region?
 - 1. Annual CISMA meeting.
 - 2. Connection is key! Emails/phone calls with other CISMA coordinators.
 - iv. Going forward, LCIP aims to provide events that have a more holistic approach.
 - 1. Sharing how individuals can engage on a larger scale.
 - 2. Connecting to the community to create a larger impact.
 - v. LCIP partners with local companies/organizations with land and/or environmental teams looking to do conservation work.
 - vi. How do we engage tribes?
 - 1. Connect with the Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council
 - vii. LCIP recommends SCIP to set goals low so that they are achievable and to be available to the needs already present in the community.

3. **Discuss new branding for the CISMA**

- a. We have a new name! South Central Invasives Partnership (SCIP)
- b. The Upper Sugar graphic designer has drafted a potential logo for SCIP.
 - i. What are your initial thoughts about this design?
 - 1. Easily understandable.
 - ii. What would you add?
 - iii. What would you change?
 - 1. Create a horizontal logo as well.

4. **Discuss Mission & Vision (moved to next meeting)**

- a. Our goal is to assist participating organizations and landowners in sharing knowledge, resources, priorities, and coordination to more effectively manage invasive species in

the region.

5. Discuss Spring projects

- a. Volunteer ecologist Nathan Gingerich botanized our WMA landowner's (Jim) land. See this list of plants we found in Verona [here](#).
- b. Check out Matt's online webinar [here](#) to learn why invasive species prevention is important, as well as best management practices and techniques for rights-of-way.

6. Shared Calendar Events - let us know about upcoming events your organization is hosting

- a. Do you have upcoming events or trainings that you'd like to share with this network?
 - i. Rob with [The Stewardship Network - Spring invasive species challenge](#)
 1. Report individual/organizational progress in removing herbaceous non-native species in your region.
 2. Shows collective work of invasive species management.
 - ii. Lakes Partnership Event Calendar
<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/calendar.aspx>
 - iii. Susan with [Lower Sugar River Watershed Association](#) - potential Garlic mustard pulling event ?
 1. How do we organize the many people currently pulling garlic mustard?

7. Discuss interest and process for signing the Memorandum of Understanding

- a. An MOU is important when a CISMA has federal agencies in their boundaries.
- b. For SCIP, this MOU will show what organizations are committing to.

8. Wrap Up & Next Meeting

- a. Please use your network to share about SCIP. Word of mouth is the best source!
- b. Next SCIP Council meeting - Thursday, May 27 from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Links shared in chat:

- Preventing and Controlling Invasive Species on Right-of-Ways Training:
<https://youtu.be/sSy13hDPOYQ>
- Drive link to the ROW BMP centerfold draft:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1np-mcjEnIM7v5WSG1PtjfGi0pZcsSyvx/view?usp=sharing>
- Java waterdropwort or Vietnamese parsley:
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/JavaWaterdropwort.html>
- The Stewardship Network Spring Invasive Species Challenge:
www.stewardshipnetwork.org/springchallenge/

- Lakes Partnership Event Calendar:
<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/calendar.aspx>
- Habitattitude Exotic Pet Surrender Event - Madison:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/405542513856748>