

# NISC Secretariat UPDATE



**NOVEMBER 2015 – JULY 2016**

# STAFFING



- **Title/Portfolio Changes**
  - Asst. Director for Policy and Program Coordination (Stas)
  - Coordinator for NISC Operations and ISAC (Kelsey)
- **New Hires**
  - Director of Publications (Jason Kirkey; 2 yr)
  - Asst. Director for Interdepartmental Coordination
  - Senior Coordinator for Science and Technology Initiatives
  - Senior/Policy Analyst (2 yr)
  - Project Manager
- **Temporary Staff**
  - Detailees
  - Interns
  - Senior Executive Service “trainees”

# Federal Policy Options Paper



- ANSTF & NISC Secretariat
- August 2015 completion
- Review of policy options for addressing movement of watercraft onto and from Fed lands and waters
- Agencies adopted template for identifying and reporting on actions taken to implement Federal options, as feasible
- e.g., assessing gaps in authorities, developing consistent messaging
- Focused discussion on implementation Nov. 2016 ANSTF mtg.



# EDRR Framework



- February 2016 release
- Federal/high level focus
- Emphasis on increasing leadership, tools, capacity, decision making to support national EDRR program
- 5 recommendations to NISC Co-Chairs to operationalize within NISC Structure
- Recommendations taken up as action items in 2016-2018 Management Plan

# ARIAS Strategy and Action Plan

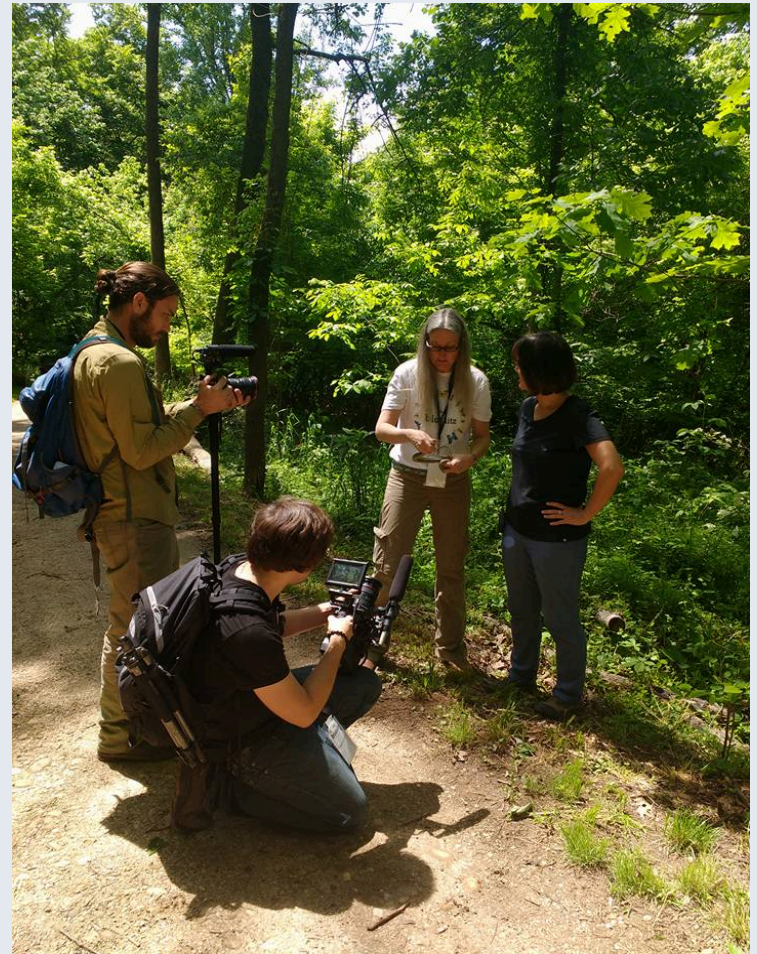
- Under the Arctic Council's Conservation of Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Working Group
- Steering Committee met in Akureyri March 30 – April 1, 2016
- High-level S & A
  - Inspire urgent and effective action
  - Advance capacities for well-informed decision making
  - Undertake prevention and EDRR initiatives
- Aug 1 review by CAFF Board
- Arctic Council ministerial in May 2017
  - ARIAS Clearinghouse
  - “Arctic invasive alien species: not cool!”



# Protecting What Matters Documentary



- Makes personal linkages
- Encourages personal action
- Initiated at DC-area BioBlitz in May
- Filming throughout US and other countries
- Sizzler in progress
- Intro at WCC
- NISAW
- Environmental film festivals
- Netflix



# U.S.TISCC



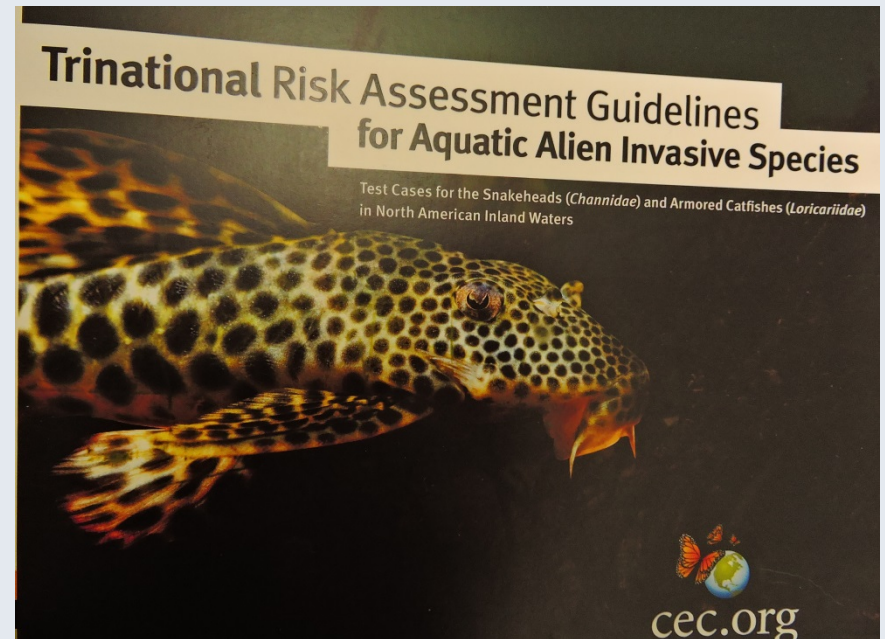
- Advancing RBP
- Workshop and training course in Honolulu in June 2016
- Decision to create U.S.TISCC
- Granting process in progress
- Territorial Action Plans

# North American Leadership Summit

## *Strengthen cooperation on invasive alien species:*

“Further collaborate on addressing invasive alien species on a continental scale. Establish a trilateral working group to explore the development of a high level joint Strategy and Action Plan identifying key areas for collaboration, including under the CEC, and to initiate a survey of existing transboundary invasive alien species projects and initiatives.”

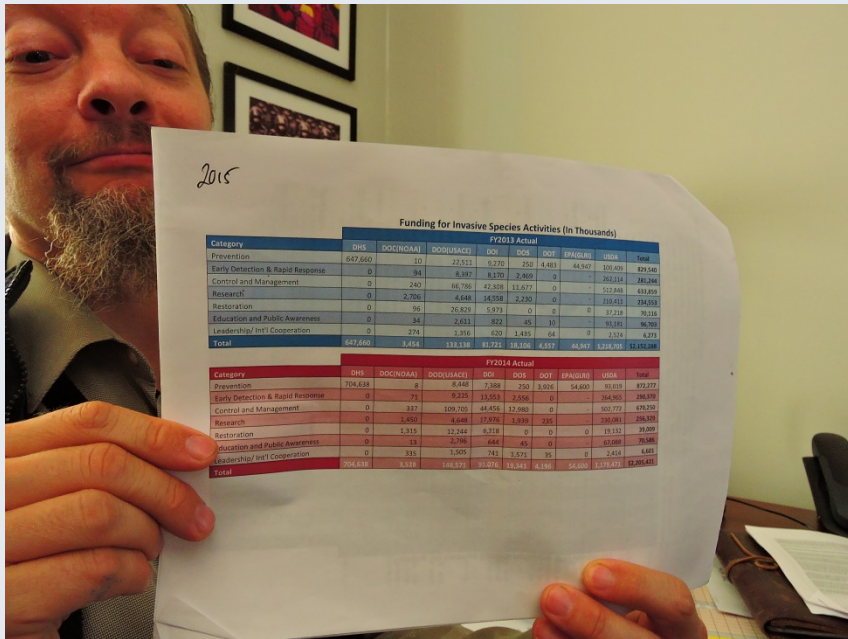
June 29, 2016



- Multiple senior bi-lateral discussions
- Margins of SBSTTA mtg in April
- Presentation at Tri-lateral in May
- Next? CEC proposal(s), transboundary project inventories



# Crosscut Budget



- “Ongoing” since 2004
- 2016 exercise has 12 Departments responding with concrete numbers
- Slightly delayed given extra time needed to assist additional agencies
- 2015 actual expenditures rose slightly less than \$100 million
- 2016 enacted projects an additional ~50 million
- Final version expected late July/August

# NEPA Guidance

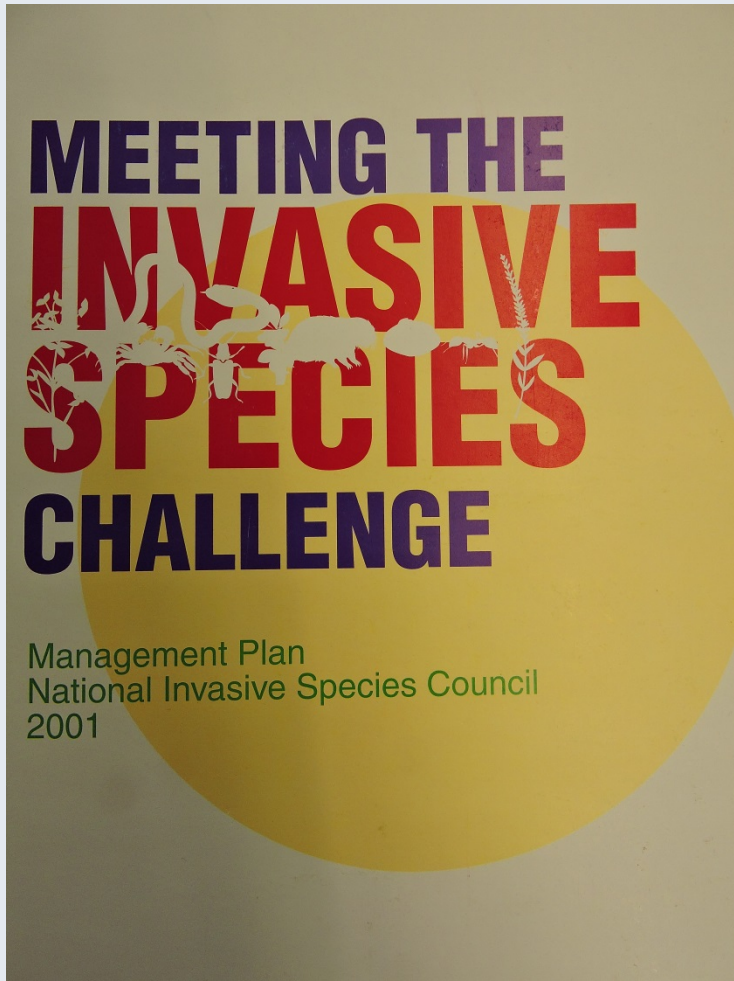
## E.O. 13112

“Section 4. (d) develop, in consultation with the Council on Environmental Quality, guidance to Federal agencies pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act on prevention and control of invasive species, including the procurement, use, and maintenance of native species as they affect invasive species”



- Data call distributed by CEQ in early Dec. 2015
- Response analysis underway
- Determine next steps with CEQ

# 2001 & 2008 Management Plan Reviews



- Reviews in the past – piecemeal focused on particular interests.
- Congress et al. recognize need for comprehensive review.
- What has/has not been completed?
- What outputs exist for what has been completed, and how can they be accessed?
- What are the lessons learned re making MPs more effective in the future?
- What action items still warrant completion? How might this be accomplished?

# Upcoming



- **World Conservation Congress (Hawaii)**
- **NISC website revision**
- **Annual report**



# Task Teams



- Facilitate ISAC providing best possible advice to NISC
- Topics correspond with NISC priorities – set within Management Plan
- May also address emerging priorities
- Comprised of ISAC members, non-Federal experts, DFO, and notetaker
- ISAC members may serve on more than one Task Team simultaneously
- May reach out to other non-Feds and Feds as “resource persons”



# Task Teams



- **Themes**
  - Federal-State Coordination
  - Federal-Tribal Coordination
  - Wildlife Health
  - Infrastructure
  - Gene Editing
- **Toolkit (thumb drive)**
  - List of participants
  - Strategic planning table
  - References
  - Recommendation guidance
    - ❖ Bold, yet practical
    - ❖ Consider context