

## 2007 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2007 and Action Plan for 2008

**Committee Code and Name:** P4 *Invasive Plant Science and Management*

**Committee Members:** Lars Anderson\*, Joe DiTomaso, Mike Foley, Kevin Gibson, John Jachetta, Greg MacDonald, Vanelle Peterson\*

**Contracted Coordinator:** Janet Clark, Center for Invasive Plant Management, Montana State University

**Committee Goal for 2007:** To launch a new, high-quality, peer-reviewed WSSA journal focusing on the management of invasive plants in noncrop habitats. The journal will be designed to appeal to scientists *and* practitioners.

### Summary of Progress for 2007:

1. What was accomplished toward the goals set by the committee?
  - a. Project manager contracted (J. Clark, CIPM)
  - b. Journal editor hired (J. DiTomaso); associate editors and reviewers enlisted
  - c. IPSM publishing contract signed with Allen Press
  - d. Operational and marketing plans developed in collaboration with Allen Press
  - e. Online article-submission and editorial system created at Allen Press
  - f. Call for Papers distributed; submissions reviewed and formatted
  - g. Journal cover and design agreed upon
  - h. IPSM website created (<http://www.wssa.net/WSSA/Pubs/IPSM.htm>)
  - i. First issue of IPSM published January 2008
  
2. What was the membership/committee involvement in committee activities?
  - a. Pre-project feasibility studies
  - b. Initial editorial advisors
  - c. Liaison with WSSA Board of Directors
  
3. If funds were requested, how much was requested and how much was actually spent?

### IPSM Financial Summary, as of 12/31/07

	Budgeted	Expenditures
Project Manager – contracted services (April-Dec 2007)	\$ 30,000	\$ 22,500 ( <i>as of final invoice</i> )
Editor – annual stipend (2007)	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Travel/PR – Editor/Project Manager	\$ 10,000	0
Project operating budget	\$ 15,000	
Editor training (@ Allen Press)		\$ 616
ChainBridge Consulting		\$ 6,506
Marketing materials ( <i>included in Allen Press contract</i> )		\$ 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 70,000</b>	<b>\$ 44,622</b>

*It is anticipated that the initial project will conclude well under budget.  
These figures do not include contracted commitments to Allen Press for actual publishing.*

4. What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on any or all of the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?
  - a. The WSSA Director of Publications has an additional journal to track.
  - b. Because IPSM is designed to include peer-reviewed *and* other articles/editorials, WSSA committees could use the journal to their advantage to publicize issues. For example, a quarterly report from the WSSA Washington liaison could be incorporated into the journal, or ads could be created for WSSA educational materials and programs.
  - c. It is hoped that the journal will encourage more land management practitioners to join WSSA, thereby increasing WSSA membership.
  
5. What is the current state of committee/project activity and what is needed to further the goals of the committee/project?
  - a. Systems and people are well in place to continue publication of the journal. Articles are being submitted.
  - b. Marketing and PR will be necessary to reach out to non-WSSA members to subscribe to IPSM and, ideally, become WSSA members.
  - c. The Director of Publications and supporting committee should keep themselves informed about subscription numbers, profit/loss of the journal, and whether the journal is meeting the needs of diverse subscribers.
  - d. The IPSM Committee/Editor should be in touch with the WSSA Publications Board, Public Relations Steering Committee, and perhaps Finance Committee and Strategic Planning Committee to ensure the publication is used to the maximum benefit of WSSA.

**Recommendations for Board/Society Action:**

1. Add the IPSM Editor to the Publications Board.
2. Decide how much time, money, and effort to invest in IPSM (and possibly other WSSA publications) in the future.

**Committee Goals for 2008:**

1. Continue publishing IPSM.
2. Publicize the new journal at regional meetings and conferences.
3. Increase individual and institutional subscriptions to IPSM.

**Plan of Action for 2008:**

1. Continue soliciting high-quality (peer-review) articles for IPSM through internet listservs and notices in other professional outlets.
2. Follow IPSM Marketing Plan for advertising, taking display to conferences, etc. – note WSSA responsibilities
3. Consider including in IPSM general-interest articles and editorials written by WSSA members or guest commentators.
4. Monitor subscription rates and journal content in order to maintain profits and meet customer needs.
5. In consultation with Allen Press, provide subscription-rate, content, design, and staffing (if necessary) recommendations to the WSSA Board in February 2009.
6. Prepare to put WSSA publishing (all three journals) out on bid in 2009.

**Resources needed for 2008:**

1. According to the contract with Allen Press, WSSA will owe \$65,130 plus \$18,000 (dues contribution) for IPSM production. In addition, Allen Press can charge up to \$15,000 for marketing in Year 1.

*Invasive Plant Science and Management* statistics – provided by IPSM Editor Joe DiTomaso

As of Dec. 28, 2007:

Papers received for peer review - 56

6 rejected before review

16 pending (in review stage)

11 rejected after review

2 being revised

14 sent to production

7 waiting for production

Issue 1 (January 08) – 11 papers

Issue 2 (April 08) – 10 papers completed; 2 being revised

Issue 3 (July 08) – 16 papers pending