

**Agenda - SC EPPC**  
**8 May 2008**  
**Congaree National Park**

- 10:00 AM Call to order - John Brubaker.
- 10:05 AM Secretary's Report - Heidemarie Lux, Acting Secretary.
- 10:15 AM Treasurer's Report - Colette DeGarady.
- 10:20 AM The influence of human land use on biological invasions in floodplain forests.  
Brian Green.<sup>1</sup>
- 11:20 AM Symposium Committee Report - Robin Mackie  
11<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeast EPPC Conference, May 13-15, 2009, Georgetown, SC
- 12:00 N Working Lunch; committee and task force members break-out in working lunch sessions. Please remember to bring your own lunch.
- 1:00 PM Kudzu Task Force Report - Newt Hardie.
- 1:25 PM Cogangrass Task Force update - George Kessler.  
- Funding requirements to continue Coordinator's position.  
- SC Cogangrass survey - May 15-18, 2008.
- 1:40 PM SC Invasive Plant List Committee Report - John Brubaker for Sudie Daves  
- February 2008 edition, *Invasive Plant Pest Species of South Carolina*.
- 1:50 PM Education Committee Report - Mary Morrison.  
- SC-EPPC Display for 10<sup>th</sup> Annual SE-EPPC Conference, May 20-22, 2008, Biloxi, Mississippi.
- 2:05 PM EDRR Committee Report - Robin Mackie.
- 2:15 PM Election - Robin Mackie, Nominating Committee Chairman.  
Up for election are President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Member at Large positions presently held by Sudie Daves, Kathy Ellingston, Helen Legare Floyd, and Travis Rogers.
- 2:30 PM Old Business.
- 2:40 PM New Business.  
- What image should be featured on our web page?  
- Other
- 3:00 PM Adjourn.

1. Brian Greene, a native of South Carolina, attended Wofford College and graduated with High Honors from the biology department. While at Wofford, Brian was mentored by Dr. Doug Rayner and began a project studying privet along Lawson's Fork Creek in Spartanburg. This research experience created a great interest in invasive species. Currently, Brian is a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow studying at Cornell University with Dr. Bernd Blossey in the department of Natural Resources. His project focuses on human land use and biological invasions in floodplain forests.

#### Research:

In the Southeastern United States Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), is an invasive shrub rapidly spreading across the landscape. Yet as ubiquitous as this noxious weed appears to be, some areas are more prone to invasions and others seem to be resistant. I conducted a series of surveys to better understand this biological invasion in order to make predictions about future at risk areas and potential control methods. I conducted a vegetative survey of 12 floodplain forests in the Piedmont ecoregion of South Carolina. The sites varied in distance from urban centers and percent watershed developed. This allowed for analysis to see if patterns of privet invasion are correlated to different land uses. This study provides a base line for further studies into the mechanisms and reasons for privet invasions. Results from the study also indicate that privet has affects on herbaceous plant growth, diversity and woody tree replacement. Preliminary research was conducted in the summer of 2007 into the connection between changes in hydrology and privet invasions. Soil surveys and infiltration rates were measured at each site to identify abiotic properties of invaded and natural locations. The results of this research project are being used to educate and inform landowners and managers in South Carolina.