

WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

April 18, 2025

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(Notes written in red are assignments to specific people. Please pay particular attention to those notes.)

Literature resources folder:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pK5Eur7G_ABeGQzfTlJeAqKk6NlpMnp9?usp=drive_link

Outdoor Cat Proposal :

[uuhdU6JMYpdw9GDcGVRW13i/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=111926354097808985220&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/uuhdU6JMYpdw9GDcGVRW13i/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=111926354097808985220&rtpof=true&sd=true)

IDNR Wildlife

Website: <https://dnr.illinois.gov/programs/invasivespeciescouncil/terrestrialplants.html>

NOTES:

Attendees:

Joy O'Keefe

Scott Meister

Katie Baughman

Lydia Scott

Comments that still need to be dealt with:

Scott is going to write about cats in Illinois

Mike to write the comments to the committee including intro to the proposal.

Scott will incorporate a paper that Liza mentioned – cat population estimate in the US – in the literature section.

Joy put a comment in the document asking the team if a conceptual diagram would be helpful – identifying the different types of cats.

Joy will summarize the damage potential.

Joy will look for liter sizes based on the article that Mike mentioned. Thompson, et al.,
(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921800922002452?via%3Dihub>)

The article tries to estimate the cost vs. different management strategies.

Katie will rearrange the Potential Environmental Impact section.

Joy wrote a section on official control. (Top of page 6)

Things to consider –

1. Do we need to expand on our reasoning as to lack of a management recommendation – why?
 - a. Cost prohibitive

- b. Trap Neuter and Release
 - c. Euthanasia
 - d. Push back from the public
- 2. Reproductive Potential? Are we overthinking this? Joy, Mike or Scott will work on this.
 - a. Can we pull something from Thompson article?
 - b. High reproductive and dispersal potential.

Economic Impacts

- 1. Toxoplasmosis – Joy will write more on the economic impacts section.
[efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/document?repid=rep1&type=pdf&doi=069ea219c1476429e9257431e151d25f11472334](https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/document?repid=rep1&type=pdf&doi=069ea219c1476429e9257431e151d25f11472334)
- 2. \$80 per trap per cat, \$174 holding and euthanasia, neutering \$22, etc.
- 3. Management of cat population, E or T&R
- 4. Feeding
- 5. Impacts to livestock
- 6. Impacts to wildlife and ecosystems
- 7. Sunk observation costs
- 8.

IDNR Invasive Species list – Katie reported that IDNR has not updated the official list from 2020. (See paper) Katie and Liza will coordinate input and cross reference these sections.
 Recommended to put the list of species after the paragraphs.

Uncertainty Joy to work on this.

- 1. Don't know how many outdoor cats are in Illinois
- 2. Difficult to quantify economic impacts
- 3. Don't know if lethal control or T&R would be a better approach, uncertainty of public knowledge and change of behavior.

Gary will work on – education, survey work and recommendations on survey work.

Conclusion and rating recommendation to be discussed at next meeting.