



**Annual General Meeting & Spring Forum**  
**Wednesday, October 5, 2022**  
**1:00 – 3:00 P.M.**  
**Online**

12:55 P.M.	Meeting opens
1:00 P.M.	Meeting Begins – Welcome & Introduction
1:10 P.M.	<p><b><i>An Assessment of invasive species impacts on species at risk in BC</i></b>            Dr. Natascia Tamburello, Sr. Systems Ecologist &amp; Science Communications Specialist            Aline Litt, Research Assistant, ESSA Technologies Ltd.</p>
1:55 P.M.	<p>ISCMV Annual General Meeting (Chair Melinda Yong)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve 2021 AGM minutes</li> <li>2. 2021/22 ISCMV Year-in-review (Tasha Murray)</li> <li>3. Presentation of financial statements (Treasurer Scott Walmsley)</li> <li>4. Recognitions (Tasha Murray)</li> <li>5. Election of the 2022-2025 ISCMV Directors (Director Lisa Dreves)</li> </ol>
2:10 P.M.	<p><b><i>Climate change and invasive species distribution in Metro Vancouver</i></b>            Emma Nikkel, UBC/TWU Master's graduate</p>
2:40 P.M.	Closing comments Optional discussion/networking
3:00 P.M.	Good-bye!

## Presentations

### ***An Assessment of invasive species impacts on species at risk in BC***

Dr. Natascia Tamburello, Sr. Systems Ecologist & Science Communications Specialist, ESSA Technologies Ltd.

Aline Litt, Research Assistant, ESSA Technologies Ltd.

Invasive species are the second leading cause of both biodiversity loss and species extinctions on a global scale. In British Columbia, invasive species are known to have both direct and indirect impacts on hundreds of species at risk, but the collective scope and nature of these impacts has not yet been systematically assessed. This presentation will summarize outcomes from an initiative that synthesized the impacts that priority invasive species are having on federally-listed species at risk in British Columbia. This work was contracted by the Invasive Species Council of BC, with funding from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, to help guide the development of strategies that make the best use of limited management resources. [This work was published in a November 2021 report available here.](#)

Natascia works at the intersection of marine and freshwater ecology, natural resource management, and science communications and has applied her skills across a wide range of projects in fisheries, ecological restoration, and invasive species management in North America and abroad. She completed her doctoral work studying the spatial ecology of marine invasive species in the Caribbean to inform effective management strategies and has continued her work in the invasive species space through a series of projects involving policy analysis, risk assessment, and strategic planning to inform the management of invasive species in British Columbia, with a primary focus on marine invasive species. Her scientific expertise in invasive species ecology is complemented by formal training and many years of experience in science communications and outreach, which allows her to synthesize complex scientific information into accessible, plain-language narratives and visuals that help to support effective public engagement for participatory natural resource management. When not at her desk in Vancouver, she savors opportunities to spend time visiting and getting to know the people, places, and ecosystems that intersect with her work.

Aline Litt, Research Assistant, ESSA Technologies Ltd.

Aline Litt is an environmental researcher with experience working in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Between 2017 and 2019, Aline Litt worked as a research assistant at ESSA Technologies Ltd., where she provided research and analytical support for a range of environment projects on topics including cumulative effects, species at risk, and invasive species. Aline holds a Bachelor of Science in biology from Memorial University of Newfoundland and a master's of science in biology from Carleton University. For her master's thesis, she conducted a socio-ecological risk assessment of the effects of recreational fishing on American Eel, an endangered species in Ontario, while also leading an acoustic telemetry project to study the behaviour and passage success of eels as they migrated past a hydroelectric generating station. From her diverse work experience, Aline has garnered skills in quantitative and qualitative analysis and has learned to integrate both social and

ecological methodologies to address her research questions. When not at work, Aline enjoys hiking, camping, gardening, and cooking.

***Climate change and invasive species distribution in Metro Vancouver***

Emma Nikkel, UBC/TWU Master's graduate

The introduction of non-native, or invasive, plant species can negatively impact the functioning of natural areas, causing species extinctions and economic losses. The objective of this study was to predict how the suitability of habitats may change due to climate change, land use, and human influence, for four relatively new invasive plants species in the Pacific Northwest region of North America, a particularly vulnerable area due to its mild climate. Using current climate data and future climate scenarios, changes in suitable habitat were projected to 2050 and 2080. The results of this study suggest that invasive plants will not be impacted by climate change in the same way, with some species gaining and some losing suitable habitat in the future. This research is crucial for local and regional land managers as they assess the risk posed by these species and develop preventative management strategies to implement before invasive species spread. Emma Nikkel's full thesis, *Effects of climate change on the habitat suitability of 4 relatively new invasive plant species in the Pacific Northwest*, is [available here](#).

Emma Nikkel is from the Fraser Valley and has a background in integrated pest management and agricultural work. She holds a Bachelor of Science in environmental studies from Trinity Western University and Master of Science from the University of British Columbia. Her interests are in plants and conservation work, especially in light of climate change.