

Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
9:00 a.m. November 6, 2013
Online/Teleconferenced meeting via GoToWebinar
and hosted at the Confluence Technology Center, located at 285 Technology Center Way,
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Office report for October
- Budget summary spreadsheet
- Email request from UW Herbarium for special projects funding
- Skamania County NWCB special projects proposal
- Draft puncturevine brochure in Spanish
- Summary list of 2014 weed list proposals
- 2014 calendar

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman	Butch Klaveano	Tim Miller
Sarah Cooke	Bill Agosta	Jenifer Parsons (WebEx)
Dirk Veleke	Bob Roth (WebEx)	
Brad White		

Others present:

Alison Halpern, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board

Wendy DesCamp, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board

Greg Haubrich, WSDA

Brian Sheldon

Mike Nordin

Doug Nordin

Will Arneson, Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board

Dave Heimer, WDFW

Glenn Lebsack, Clark County Vegetation Management (WebEx)

Angelica Velazquez, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

- Tim Miller announced that there was going to be a flowering rush symposium in Spokane in conjunction with the Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council (IPC). It would be a four-hour session with presentations about the status of flowering rush in the northern U.S. and Canada, biology, impacts, future direction of research, the difficulty in controlling flowering rush. Tim will provide more information at the next meeting since folks might be interested in attending it.
- Butch Klaveano noted that there had been a killing frost, so they were done spraying weeds for the year.

- Sarah Cooke would be teaching a class on grass, sedge, and rush ID in January and asked that Board members let her know if they were interested in attending. She had been keying out specimens of pampas grass that were submitted by Rick Johnson. Sarah verified that the first sample was *Cortaderia selloana*.
- Dirk Veleke's company has been working a lot with Chelan County PUD, treating knotweed and purple loosestrife. They also spent three days controlling blackberry in habitat where the endangered Ute-ladies'-tresses orchid occurs and GPSed the orchid plants.
- Tony Stadelman welcomed the frost, since it meant that puncturevine was done for the year. It is one of the worst plants in Grant County, emerging in May and lasting until the first frost. He finished harvesting corn; it was his earliest harvest in eight years.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for September

VOTE	Butch Klaveano	Moved to approve minutes for the September 2013 Board meeting
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

OFFICE REPORTS:

The Board reviewed the office report for October.

Alison noted that she had been busy preparing for the hearing. They had received a lot of testimony and there were many emails and write-ups about the noxious weed listing, including a Q&A fact sheet. She has been scanning a lot of paper files and emptying a lot of file cabinets. Wendy and Alison had visited an escaped pampas grass infestation in Olympia and had done some surveying in Grayland with Rick Johnson. Wendy had also been preparing for the hearing and upcoming conference and been working on written findings, the most recent being for the nonnative hawkweeds. She had recently given a presentation for the WCC crew training in Olympia.

WSDA UPDATE:

Brad White:

- Deferred until the discussion period before voting on the 2014 noxious weed list.

Greg Haubrich:

- Greg had attended the annual NAISMA meeting. There was a good biocontrol session, and Jennifer Andreas had been there to lead the flowering rush biocontrol consortium. WSDA and ECY have contributed funding towards this project, as have other programs from several states. Flowering rush is spreading down the Columbia River towards Oregon. Jenifer Parsons had been working extensively with this noxious weed. The consortium would be sending plants to Switzerland for biocontrol tests.
- The iForm App had been developed for Android. They were currently testing it and working on glitches.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Alison provided the update.

The Board reviewed the September expenditure report. There were no major expenditures, just routine, operational costs.

The Board reviewed suggestions and proposals for the \$7.5K they had allocated towards special projects. Many coordinators had provided suggestions to support WSU’s biocontrol program, purchase additional road signs, and fund biocontrol research. Chelan County NWCB had made several outreach suggestions, including funding to print our puncturevine brochure, which they had translated into Spanish. A request was made for funding towards the revision of Hitchcock and Cronquist’s Flora of the PNW. Skamania County had submitted a proposal to survey for escaped butterfly bush. The Board discussed:

- Several counties supported the WSU biocontrol program.
- The request sent out was for informal suggestions. In the past, there had been a mix of informal suggestions and more formal proposals. With only \$7.5K available, informal suggestions seemed a better approach.
- \$500 towards the puncturevine brochure in Spanish would print a lot of brochures.
- Tony noted that the biocontrol program is important and beneficial to all counties.
- Bob noted that he would support the Skamania County proposal.
- Bill expressed some concern that other county weed boards might be penalized for not submitting specific proposals but was fine with the survey.
- Greg noted that the WSU biocontrol program had been cut by one-third. The biocontrol insects are distributed at no cost to landowners. \$2K would be helpful.
- Alison summarized possible allotments: \$1.6K to UW’s flora revision, \$3K for WSU’s biocontrol program, \$500 for puncturevine brochure, \$2.4K for Skamania County’s survey.

VOTE	Butch Klaveano	Moved to allocate \$3K to WSU’s biocontrol program, \$500 for the puncturevine brochure, \$2.4K for Skamania County NWCB, \$1.6K to the UW Herbarium towards the flora revision.
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	Discussion	Alison would email David Giblin at the UW Herbarium to make sure the money would be used on a project that could be completed by June 30. If UW cannot use the money within that time, then it would go towards WSU’s biocontrol program. Skamania County NWCB would be asked to provide GPS coordinates of escaped butterfly bush populations to WSDA.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

2014 NOXIOUS WEED LIST

Proposed minor amendments to listed noxious weeds including Class B designations:

- undesignate wild chervil in Island County
- designate yellow archangel in Island County
- undesignate spurge laurel in Pierce and Jefferson counties
- undesignate myrtle spurge in Clallam and Jefferson counties

- modifying Eurasian milfoil designation to include Pend Oreille County in all lakes with public boat launches except Fan Lake
- designate hairy willow-herb in Pend Oreille County
- designate tall hawkweed in Pend Oreille County (pending hawkweed reclassification)
- designate meadow knapweed in Pend Oreille County
- designate Bohemian knotweed in Pend Oreille County
- designate policeman’s helmet in Pend Oreille County
- designate plumeless thistle in Pend Oreille County
- modify yellow starthistle designation in Stevens County to read: Stevens County except T36 R38 in the area contained within Hwy 395/Hwy 20, Pingston Creek Road, and Highland Loop Road.”
- reinstate exemption “with the exception of bulbing fennel, *F. vulgare* var. *azoricum*” to common fennel listing (unintentionally omitted in 2013)

VOTE	Dirk Veleke	Moved to approve all 13 minor amendments for the 2014 noxious weed list
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	Discussion	Brad asked why the designation language for yellow starthistle in Stevens County was so specific. Alison explained that prior to the 2013 weed list, Class B designations were often very specific. The State Weed Board updated all designations and had tried to make designation areas broader at the state level but was willing to make some exceptions if a county weed board was making containment a high priority.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Proposed in-house reclassifications

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Moved to reclassify velvetleaf, <i>Abutilon theophrasti</i> , from a Class A to a Class B noxious weed, to be designated everywhere except Yakima and Franklin counties.
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Dirk Veleke	Moved to reclassify buffalobur, <i>Solanum rostratum</i> , from a Class A to a Class C noxious weed.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to reclassify nonnative yellow-flowered hawkweeds and hybrids by sub-genera Meadow (<i>Pilosella</i>) and Wall (<i>Hiercium</i>), with meadow hawkweeds designated everywhere except Pierce, Thurston, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Stevens, Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Spokane counties and wall hawkweeds designated everywhere except Skagit, Whatcom, and Stevens counties.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion
	Discussion	Alison noted that the draft WAC language contained <i>H. lactucella</i> where it

		should have read <i>H. murorum</i> . The Board would be voting with this minor error corrected.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Moved to add lesser celandine, <i>Ficaria verna</i> , as a Class B noxious weed, to be designated in Snohomish, Skamania, Pend Oreille, and Stevens counties.
	Butch Klaveano	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to add <i>Arundo donax</i> , giant reed, as a Class B noxious weed, to be designated within riparian areas, wetlands, special flood hazard areas (100-year flood plains), open irrigation waterways, or in a 100 ft. buffer beyond the edge of these areas in regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion.
	Discussion	<p>Brad noted that WSDA had just submitted the first part of the rule-making to quarantine <i>Arundo</i>, allowing it to only be cultivated under a compliance agreement. Under the agreement, there would be planting guidelines, site inspections, and agreement to control any inadvertent spread of this plant. If WSDA regulates <i>Arundo</i> it under the quarantine process rather than the State Weed Board listing it as a noxious weed, then it would allow potential commercial growers to responsibly grow it and seek federal funding. The benefit of the compliance agreement is that it would allow WSDA to establish guidelines requiring where it cannot be planted, which would prevent it from being planted in susceptible areas to begin with. The WSDA Director supports the quarantine measure.</p> <p>Tony asked if the buffers in the quarantine would be the same as those used in the proposed designations. Brad replied that it would depend on the site. Each would be evaluated. WSDA would prefer dryland irrigation sites for plantings.</p> <p>Sarah asked whether they could address <i>Arundo</i> if it becomes problematic at a later date. Alison replied that she has been working with WSDA on the quarantine process to make sure that the State Weed Board would feel confident about the rules being drafted. However, if <i>Arundo</i> does escape, the State Weed Board can reconsider listing it at that time. The other benefit to the quarantine is that it would remove non-variegated <i>Arundo</i> from the ornamental trade.</p>
	Bill Agosta	Withdrew the motion to list <i>Arundo</i> as a Class B noxious weed.

VOTE	Sarah Cooke	Moved to add nonnative <i>Typha</i> species and their hybrids, including but not limited to <i>Typha angustifolia</i> , <i>T. domingensis</i> , and <i>T. x glauca</i> as a Class C noxious weed.
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to add Russian olive, <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i> , as a Class C noxious weed.
	Butch Klaveano	Seconded the motion.
	Discussion	Butch remarked that thousands of Russian olive trees had been planted through CRP contracts years ago. Tony noted that Russian olive was grouped with saltcedar in 2006 at the federal level, with respect to invasiveness. Alison suggested that she send out a letter to CRP program about the listing of Russian olive. With respect to the letter of opposition from WSDW, Tony mentioned that he had spoken to WDFW about their concerns. They had a lot of Russian olive on their lands. The new seedlings and saplings of Russian olive were spreading outside those areas.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Reinstatement of 2012 listing language of Japanese eelgrass, *Zostera japonica* (on commercially managed shellfish beds only). Tony entertained a motion three times to reinstate the 2012 listing language. No motion was made, and there was no vote.

The Board discussed their voting decisions for the Concise Explanatory Statement (CES):

- Alison will remind Ferry County NWCB that they can select buffalobur for mandatory control and velvetleaf is designated for control there.
- Tony has already talked to WDFW about Russian olive listing concerns and he can talk to local stakeholders.
- Regarding concerns about *Arundo* being allowed to be commercially grown, the Board discussed the fact that it had been sold and used ornamentally in Washington already for many years. The Board was satisfied with WSDA's efforts to prevent the potential escape of *Arundo* and would continue to work closely with them.
- The Class C noxious weed listing of Japanese eelgrass (or any other Class C) did not require control. Even without the noxious weed listing, anyone who wanted to control Japanese eelgrass on his or her property could do so, as long as all permitting and regulations were followed. Currently, there was no herbicide available for Japanese eelgrass, but ECY was developing a permit to allow imazamox to be applied to commercial clam beds in Willapa Bay. It was still in draft format. Land owners and resource managers with Japanese eelgrass should consider their management goals. Even though Japanese eelgrass could have beneficial traits, it was still expanding distribution, changing ecosystems, converting bare mudflats in some areas such as Willapa Bay. Ross Barkhurst provided a lot of testimony and had made several recommendations; however, those recommendations were beyond the jurisdiction of the Board.

COORDINATORS' FORUM:

- Angelica brought up the issue of inconsistent noxious weed control efforts between adjacent counties (such as knotweed) and asked if the State Weed Board could do anything to help bridge the gap. Alison responded that it would be good to have better inter-county coordination for the control of high priority species. She could convene a meeting with Cowlitz County NWCB and neighboring counties to see if coordination could be improved, but it can be difficult for small counties with limited funding. Tony noted that it would be a good topic for the coordinators' conference, particularly with respect to ROWs. Brad pointed out that WSDA has a knotweed coordinator who could join in the conversation. Mike Nordin suggested that in smaller counties with part-time coordinators, it might be better to involve conservation districts to help. The Chehalis Basin is getting funding for knotweed work.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

- Brian Sheldon thanked the Board and Alison for their work on the 2014 weed list. He asked about the status of escaped commercial Arundo stands. Alison replied that there were no known escaped commercial stands in Washington.
- Butch Klaveano noted that the Board had received lots of information and had spent a lot of time on the Japanese eelgrass listing. He felt that the Board was better informed about this species and both sides of the issue.

MEETING EVALUATION:

The Board selected meeting dates and some locations for 2014. They decided to keep Thursday as the meeting day and decided for now to have most meetings hosted from Olympia. Alison will talk to coordinators about perhaps doing a weed tour in July or September. The Board discussed possibly having a strategic planning committee meeting in Olympia the evening before the meeting. Meeting dates were:

- January 23 (Olympia)
- March 12 (Chelan)
- May 22 (Olympia)
- July 17 (Olympia)
- September 18 (Olympia)
- November 4,5 (Wenatchee)

VOTE	Butch Klaveano	Moved to adjourn the meeting.
	Sarah Cooke	Seconded the motion.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tony Stadelman, Chairman
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Dirk Veleke, Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board