

Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
9:00 a.m. July 19th, 2018
Natural Resources Building, Room 259 and
Online/Teleconferenced via WebEx

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes of the May 17th, 2018 meeting
- Office reports for 2nd half of May, June, and 1st half July
- End of June expenditure report
- Janet Spingath's email update
- WAC 16-750-145 language
- Education Specialist job description
- New and updated outreach materials: Eastern and Western WA Field Guides, Full Circle booklet, Scotch thistle and rush skeletonweed postcards, and bee magnet.
- Travel reimbursement forms for board members

Meeting called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman	Bill Agosta	Brad White
Ken Bajema	Jerry Hendrickson (WebEx)	Tim Miller
Wes McCart (WebEx)	Dirk Veleke	Jenifer Parsons (WebEx)

Others present:

Wendy DesCamp, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich, WA State Department of Agriculture
Angelica Velasquez, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
Mary Fee, King County Noxious Weed Control Board
Bill Wamsley, Lewis County Noxious Weed Control Board

EXECUTIVE SESSION by the State Weed Board, meeting called back to order at 9:52 am

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:

Bill Agosta reported that San Juan County Noxious Weed Board had resolved their problem with their local utility, who now want to take care of their noxious weeds and have contracts with the county weed board.

Tim Miller informed the board that Italian thistle was found in Clallam County. There was a discussion about identification in which Wendy, other coordinators, David Giblin (UW) and WSU (including Rich

Old) all took part resulting in the identification. This is the first official documented specimen in Washington of this Class A noxious weed. It was found on a fairly large site, a dry road cut, with not much else growing there. The plants are smaller than he's observed in Idaho. Sometimes this species is confused with slenderflower thistle or other thistle species.

Jenifer Parsons reported that she is having a busy field season.

Dirk Veleke remarked that in his business, he has been finding more Ravenna grass in Douglas and Chelan counties. School districts, cities and new developments are planting it. This is another reason Douglas County needs a noxious weed program. Nurseries are still selling it, and we need to quarantine it.

The Board Discussed:

- Wendy noted that Ravenna grass began as a Class A noxious weed, was reclassified to a Class B, and is on our current petition to WSDA to be included on the quarantine list.
- Tony asked Brad how long the process was to add a plant to the quarantine list. Brad informed the board it is a rule-making process and it would take about 90 days, including a comment period and review, and that the list is updated based on requests.
- Tim mentioned the incremental quarantine process was used for butterfly bush and wondered if that would be something used in this case.
- Dirk asked if there were alternatives that could be used instead of Ravenna grass, and the group agreed there were other big grasses that could be planted.

Brad White reported that in reference to Bill Agosta's issue about noxious weeds in Right-of-Ways, he had asked the topic to be put on the next agenda for the Washington Invasive Species Council meeting since they have a representative from the hydroelectric power industry. The next WISC meeting is in September.

The Board discussed:

- Bill Agosta noted that conversation from the March board meeting suggested there were several different arrangements with BPA, which varied by county, with variable results.
- Tony asked about PUDs and Brad didn't believe the hydroelectric power representative overlapped with PUDs.

Tony Stadelman noted it was nice to be on the west side where it was a little cooler—they were 106 degrees on Monday and 105 on Tuesday.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for the May 17th regular meeting.

VOTE	Ken Bajema	Moved to accept the minutes for the May 17th regular meeting.
	Dirk Veleke	Seconded the motion
	<i>The Board</i>	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

OFFICE UPDATES

Wendy DesCamp highlighted the following information from the office reports:

- They did a reprint of their bee brochure which has been very popular. They switched out one photo on the cover with an excellent photo by Rod Gilbert.
- The eastern and western Washington field guides were reprinted. Each one has four new species. For the western WA guide, Italian arum, European coltsfoot, hairy willow-herb, and yellow flag iris were added. Also, the two new *Impatiens* species were included on the policeman's helmet page. For the eastern WA guide, a medusahead/ventenata page, Ravenna grass, tree-of-heaven, and perennial pepperweed were added. Malta starthistle was also included on the yellow starthistle page. The field guides were printed with some counties contributing printing funds, which provides them with field guides and brought our overall printing unit cost down.
- In June, Tim and Wendy went to Mt. Rainier National Park to present to the park staff. Wendy talked about new noxious weeds, and Tim talked about herbicides.
- Tim and Wendy also conducted two plant identification workshops at the end of June, one in eastern WA and one in western WA. They reviewed live samples of newer listed noxious weeds for coordinators and staff. The workshops went well though the groups ended up being a bit smaller than they thought they would have.
- They expanded the Full Circle brochure, which was inspired and adapted from Kevin Hupp's Full Circle brochure, into a booklet. Bill asked if she had let the counties know about these publications. She said that she will be emailing them shortly about all their new items, as she has so far only done a Facebook post and put them on the website.
- They also made a new magnet, keeping with their recent pollinator theme of the Bee-U-tify seed packets and with additional pollinator information in the Full Circle booklet. The photo is courtesy of Rod Gilbert.
- She worked on two new postcards in partnership with Jennifer Andreas, of the Integrated Weed Control Project, adding rush skeletonweed and Scotch thistle to their series of early detection/rapid response postcards.
- End of June is the end of the fiscal year, which had been extra busy. She thanked Susie Allen (who just joined the meeting) for all her help in the office, including mailing seed packets and with all of their invoicing so they had everything submitted by the end of the fiscal year.
- In July, she met with Cindy Cooper to talk about the quarantine list proposal.
- At the end of the office report, she included her exchange time, currently 8 hours, as requested by Tony at the last board meeting.

The Board discussed

- Tony asked if Wendy would also add her vacation time to the office report. He asked Brad how much vacation time employees can have and Brad reported state employees max out at 240 hours. Wendy agreed to do add those hours to the report.

WSDA UPDATE

Greg Haubrich provided the update.

- He recently met with the Department of Ecology about the EIS they did this past fall to add new compounds to the NPDES permit. Aminopyralid was included as it currently has a label up to the edge of the water, and this permit would allow drift into water. They'll be looking for feedback. They have another meeting on July 31st that will also include Fish and Wildlife. Department of Ecology also included Procellacor (used on milfoil), Oasis (used some on riparian plants), and a couple other compounds we don't use very much. He also asked about Vastlan but it couldn't be covered as it wasn't included in the EIS. If everything goes well with the public hearing process, the permit should be available spring 2019. It would be helpful if the Department of Ecology could get feedback from counties about the new permit.
- Bill Wamsley asked Greg about knapweeds, as they occasionally encounter some in riparian areas, and if this situation would apply. Greg answered that it did—that they also see knapweeds on sandbars and this type of information is helpful, as if you spray from a boat you will get drift.
- They had also proposed Opensight, but that has metsulfuron methyl (Escort) in it, which was not covered under the NPDES permit.
- He did get an increase of \$50,000 in grant dollars from the US Forest Service, and BLM is proposing to provide another contract for \$50,000. If counties have BLM land, let him or Debbie Plummer know; it will probably be next year the money is available.

The Board discussed:

- Tim asked if there is a formal process to request the BLM funds and Greg said there wasn't, just talk with him and Debbie Plummer if you have BLM lands. He said that some BLM projects are held up right now; they can pay for survey, but until the Environmental Assessment is finished, can't apply herbicide.
- Tony and Dirk asked about milestone and the NPDES permit. Greg noted that drift would be covered under the permit and there will need to be a lot of monitoring.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Board reviewed the expenditures for June.

- Wendy put together a list of end of year expenditures with much help from WSDA. The expenditures list notes whether the amount has posted or if it is pending for fiscal year 18 (FY18). Everything pending for FY18 will post for that year (not FY19). One item she forgot to include on this list was the payment to Jennifer Andreas, Integrated Weed Control Project, which the Weed Board approved last year for \$5,000 and it is currently pending. She also included two purchases that she knew were coming in July—their parking pass and the Washington Weed Conference registration.

- The list also indicates the money that the counties contributed for the field guide payments, most of which is pending.

The Board discussed:

- Tony asked if those payments had been made yet (for the field guides) and Wendy acknowledged they had and they were waiting to be processed.
- Tony hoped by the next meeting they would have some year-end reports. Wendy thought that everything should be posted by the next meeting.
- Tony asked Greg about the chemical the board purchased and if that would help with the Cathy's thistles. Tim and Greg said milestone would work on that, but that Cathy had certainly already controlled it.
- Greg told the Board he was able to purchase the herbicide for Asotin County to conduct Mediterranean sage control. He also purchased three cases of Milestone in quart-sized containers for the Weed Board that can be used on projects. Tony asked Wendy to send out an email to counties offering this milestone for Class A and Class B designate noxious weeds.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Legislative Committee

Tony didn't have anything to report, asked if Mary Fee had any updates.

- Mary reported that she had heard back from most of the leads from coordinator groups and nobody had additional comments.
- Tony asked if a survey could be sent out to see when they can hold the next legislative committee meeting. They can have it in central location. Toney suggested mid-September for the meeting since summer is a busy time of year and the Board can review at their November meeting.

Noxious Weed Committee

Tim Miller provided the update.

- The Noxious Weed Committee had their first meeting in May to talk about the plan for the year. They didn't have many new requests this year, so the committee is looking at updating some nomenclature and mainly looking at Class B designations. Greg just provided them updated distribution maps, so the NWC will review these and see if designations are appropriate. The committee will meet August 13th to review possible designation changes. They did add a few monitor species.
- Bill Wamsley asked if the scientific name for tansy ragwort was going to change. Tim said they will have to look into it.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Executive Secretary Position update.

Brad White hoped the job posting would be out tomorrow. The job is posted through the official portal for state positions. Wendy will send out the link to board members and coordinators and Tim will send it around WSU. It will be open for 3 weeks, can be extended if needed.

The Board discussed:

- Wendy said she heard from Mary Fee the announcement was already posted.
- Ken asked Brad how Veteran's preference worked. Brad believed it adds points to the applicant's score and he would check with Human Resources for more information.

16-750-145

Tony noted it was not on the agenda, but the board discussed making changes to 16-750-145 at the last board meeting. He wants to move along with edits so the update can occur along with our weed list updates in November.

The Board discussed

- Wendy asked if Tony talked to Henri and Gloriann about making these changes. He said he told WSDA that he may be making some changes.
- Bill Wamsley asked if the Executive Secretary's job description changed from what was originally drafted. Brad answered that they added Veteran's preference, supervisory duties, and the position would track training requirements for the board members. WSDA HR added a standard statement at the top of the announcement.
- Ken asked if a position description for the Executive Secretary existed similar to the one for the Education Specialist position. Brad answered that there is a position description for the Executive Secretary, it is basically the job announcement, includes expectations and working conditions. There is also an Employee Expectations document which is something the board needs and would want to work on after they hire someone, as it documents the expectations of that person in the position.
- Ken commented how the announcement does not specify how technical the person has to be-the expected level of expertise. Tony read off the announcement and thought there were specifics included. This is also why he wants to update 16-750-145.
- Tony asked Wendy to make 16-750-145 an agenda item for the September meeting. Brad noted that the Board could assign requirements, like obtaining a consultant's license, once the new person starts. Tony noted how important it is to have a consultant's license for talking about herbicide.

COORDINATORS FORUM

- Bill Wamsley told the board it is a busy time right now in Lewis County with tansy ragwort and knotweed control. They are partnering with the Forest Service to help with weed control on their lands. There is a new population of ventenata discovered in Randall that David Giblin helped identify. Bill said they need to survey but hoped there was less than a couple acres of it. Their

county commissioners and the weed board are looking at moving to assessment funding, so potentially in 2019 the weed board could see this happen.

- Mary Fee reported that King County did a news story about giant hogweed, and they have been getting a lot of calls. It has also helped get the word out in neighboring counties.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Wendy asked board members to please pick up travel reimbursement forms before they left. Also, as she previously emailed the Board, WSDA is helping them to put together State identification cards so they can easily be charged government rate at hotels when traveling for board meetings.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting will be held on September 20th at 9:00am in Olympia and over WebEx.

- Bill Wamsley asked about the timing of the hiring process for the Executive Secretary. Tony estimated that interviews may begin in September at the earliest. Tony asked Wendy to ask the board and hiring committee to think of interview questions.
- Brad explained that all candidates would be asked the same questions, but the committee can pursue a line of questioning to obtain more details. He offered to obtain some guidelines from WSDA Human Resources.
- Tony asked Wendy to email board members to see who else would like an identification card.

The meeting adjourned at 10:47am by a motion by Bill Agosta, seconded by Ken Bajema.
All in favor.

Tony Stadelman, Chairman
WSNWCB

Dirk Veleke, Secretary
WSNWCB