

**Regular Meeting of the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board**  
**9:00 a.m. September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**Natural Resources Building, Room 259 and**  
**Online/Teleconferenced via WebEx**

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes of the July 19th, 2018 meeting
- Office reports for 2<sup>nd</sup> half of July, August, and 1<sup>st</sup> half September
- End of FY18 budget report
- FY19 Budget summary for July and August
- Summary of proposed changes for the 2019 noxious weed list
- Mason County proposal letter
- Ferry County proposal letter
- Summary of comments on proposed Class B designation changes
- WSDA map of designation regions
- Suggestions for content in a Board Member’s Handbook
- WAC 16-750-145 language
- Education Specialist job description

**Meeting called to order at 8:59 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman.**

**ROLL CALL:**

*Board Members Present*

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

*Others present:*

Wendy DesCamp, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board  
 Cathy Lucero, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board  
 Greg Haubrich, WA State Department of Agriculture (WebEx)  
 Emily Stevenson, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)  
 Laurel Baldwin, Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)  
 Jason Ontjes, San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)  
 Joseph Shea, Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)

**BOARD MEMBER UPDATES:**

Jerry reported that they were are controlling Scotch thistle rosettes, and there is a lot of Russian thistle this time of year.

Jenifer Parson reported that they found a new site of variable-leaf milfoil, in Hall Lake, Snohomish County. Prior to this finding they had been down to just four lakes with populations in Thurston and Pierce counties. Also, sponge plant was found a couple years ago in Pacific County by Peter Zika. She didn't find the plant last year, but did find a lot of it this year, so it seems to be overwintering. She will propose sponge plant as a Class A noxious weed next year and as an addition to the quarantine list.

The Board discussed

- Tim asked if sponge plant was in the trade, and Jen said it was available online and probably in water garden stores as well.
- Cathy asked if it looked like the water sponge that was found in lakes. Jen said no, it is a floating plant and not a sponge.

Tony remarked that they are looking for the first good killing frost on the east side, and the potato harvest is in full swing.

Wendy provided an update from Janet: Chambers Clover Creek Watershed Council in Pierce County awarded a small grant to an artist, who taught children to identify two noxious weeds. She made most-wanted posters which the kids illustrated and drew from specimens of Scotch broom and Japanese knotweed. They had members of the Pierce County NWCB attend and passed out educational materials.

## MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for the July 19th regular meeting.

<b>VOTE</b>	Bill Agosta	Moved to accept the minutes for the July 19th regular meeting.
	Ken Bajema	Seconded the motion
	<i>The Board</i>	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

## OFFICE UPDATES

Wendy highlighted the following information from the office reports:

- At the beginning of August, she met with Brad White and others from WSDA about the code revision process. She will work on the necessary paperwork to make sure we can move forward with the process this year.
- She posted a Bee-U-Tify seed packet announcement on Facebook and had a great response, with the post reaching over 21,000 people, resulting in over 700 individual homeowners requesting packets. She also had a number of groups contact her for packets to pass out to their own members.
- Ivy project update: at the end of July she collected and sent in additional ivy samples for genetic testing, as an improved protocol was in place with the USDA lab in Montana. She received the results back, and is working on finishing up the report.
- She spent time this summer preparing information for the Class B noxious weed designation review by the Noxious Weed Committee.

- She has also spent time on the Executive Secretary hiring process, board meeting preparations and updated the weed board budget.
- She noted that she has received many phone calls and emails this summer with questions from the public.
- She reported that there have been many publication requests recently from county weed boards for their fairs. She thanked Tim and Greg for their help with delivering boxes.

The Board discussed:

- Tim asked if there was anything unusual found in the ivy genetic test results. Wendy remarked that she was surprised that in the small sample size there were some hybrids found.
- Dirk asked who was paying for the ivy project. Wendy answered that the project is paid for by a grant from the WSDA Nursery Advisory Group.
- Tony asked if they are out of seed packets, and Wendy reported that they are almost out. Tony asked her to look into the cost and timing for ordering more.

## **WSDA UPDATE**

Greg Haubrich provided the update.

- He worked with Jenifer Parsons on flowering rush surveys around the Orondo area, bringing staff and boats from the WSDA knotweed and spartina programs to help. They found one more site, about 7 miles south of the previously known Orondo site, near Lincoln Rock State Park. Both sites were hand-pulled with a dive crew from Idaho, paid for by the Chelan County NWCB with Department of Ecology grant funds.
- Washington Department of Ecology's update of NPDES permit for riparian areas (that WSDA oversees) is not going to include aminopyralid after all, due to concerns of potential impacts to riparian restoration projects. It is still allowed to treat with aminopyralid up to the water's edge. The chemical Topramezone, which goes by the tradename Oasis, an herbicide that is used primarily on broadleaf plants and some grasses, is still being considered for addition to the NPDES permit.
- For the in-water NPDES permit the Department of Ecology is also revising, they are still looking to add aminopyralid. He believes the comment period will open October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Spartina and knotweed projects are starting to wind down. He has also been supporting various projects with herbicide.
- The State Weed Board decided to buy Milestone at the end of the fiscal year to support Class A and Class B noxious weed projects in the state. Nine county weed boards were interested, with requested amounts exceeding what was available. He is in the process of fairly divvying up what he has among them.

The Board discussed:

- Wendy thanked Greg for taking care of this entire project for the Weed Board, from buying the Milestone, storing it, tracking it and divvying it out to the counties.
- Tony asked Greg about the 5% budget cut. Greg will let Brad go into the details but it basically has to do with general fund programs in WSDA taking a 5% budget cut due to another WSDA

program shutting down. Greg will also have a 5% cut to his core program, which will mean he won't have as much money to support the Flowering Rush biological control research this year.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Board reviewed the end of FY18 and the beginning of FY19. Wendy reviewed the two excel spreadsheets with the Board.

- Fiscal year 18 (FY18) finished on the last day in June. Wendy thanked Greg for sending her the budget information she needed to update the spreadsheet. A couple key things she pointed out: the allotment for FY18 was \$259,746 and we spent \$253,342, leaving about \$6,610 unspent funds. The Milestone payment still hasn't posted, so we will be down to about \$3,600 of unspent funds for FY18. The expenditures chart of FY18 is updated, showing that everything has posted except for the Milestone payment.
- The other report is for FY19, and she has information for the first two months, July and August 2018. Currently, we are showing extra money in salary and benefits, but we have a 5% cut coming. She suggested the board may want a budget committee meeting once they know about the cut, how much extra money there will be depending on when the new Executive Secretary starts and special projects. The expenditures for FY19 are listed. She noted that they made a one-time yearly payment for their storage unit this year, whereas before they paid monthly.

The Board discussed:

- Tony asked if we needed the storage unit, and Wendy said they did to store their publications.
- Jerry asked about turn-around time, if publications became outdated. Wendy answered that they try to write publications in such a way so that they can be used for a long time, leaving out certain information that may change, such as herbicide recommendations, and instead referring to references people can check.

## **REVIEW OF AND VOTING TO MOVE FORWARD OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE 2019 NOXIOUS WEED LIST**

Tim Miller reported that the Noxious Weed Committee received and reviewed two letters requesting Class B designation changes and also reviewed about half of the current Class B noxious weed designations. The Class B noxious weed review was based on distribution maps produced by Greg Haubrich and feedback from county coordinators. Due to the number of Class B noxious weeds, the Committee reviewed half of them this year and will review the second half next year. Also, the Committee is supporting five scientific name updates. They update the scientific names as there becomes consensus among taxonomists with nomenclatural changes. Synonymous scientific names still are covered by the noxious weed laws. They also considered a few monitor list additions. The Weed Board is voting today on which proposal will going forward to the November 6<sup>th</sup> public hearing.

Wendy provided a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the proposed changes to the 2019 State Noxious Weed List.

The Mason County proposal from the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board

- Designate Eurasian watermilfoil

- Designate grass-leaved arrowhead
- Designate diffuse knapweed
- Designate purple loosestrife

The Ferry County proposal from the Ferry County Noxious Weed Control Board

- Undesignate hoary alyssum in county (currently designated in 16-750-011 as: areas lying north of Highway 20 in Ferry County)

Eurasian watermilfoil

- Undesignate Cowlitz County
- Designate Kittitas County except for Columbia River.

The Board discussed:

- Jenifer Parsons talked about the challenge of controlling Eurasian watermilfoil since it is in all our major rivers in the state, including the Columbia, Pend Oreille, Snake, and Spokane Rivers. She noted control is typically focused on access points into waterways to prevent the spread of it to nearby lakes. On a statewide perspective, considering its distribution and spread by these rivers, it may be a good candidate as a Class C noxious weed for 2020, and counties could still designate it locally. Kittitas County has three freshwater lakes with Eurasian watermilfoil that WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife manage in whole or partially. Tim talked about how the Noxious Weed Committee discussed potentially not making too many changes this year if it's going to be considered as a Class C for 2020. Tony asked if there were issues with having exceptions in the designations. Tim said the law allows them to specify where to designate Class B noxious weeds.
- Cathy Lucero remarked that some public agencies prefer to have Class B's designated on their lands as it helps them to prioritize their control, providing leverage within their own agency.
- Wendy noted that WDFW received some grant money from Department of Ecology to control a buffer area in one of the lakes in Kittitas County, but that funding was short-term. Jenifer noted that the Department of Ecology does provide grant funds for short-term projects, but they are not a source of long-term funding. The Department of Ecology has provided funds for the freshwater lakes in Kittitas County, but treatments haven't been successful in eradicating it yet.
- Cathy commented that agencies do not have enough funds budgeted to control noxious weeds on their lands.

Brazilian elodea:

- Undesignate Cowlitz County
- Designate Pacific County
- Designate Snohomish County

Tim noted that Pacific and Snohomish counties were okay to possibly designate, and he interpreted it as okay to propose designating in those counties.

Butterfly bush:

- Designate San Juan County
- Designate Grays Harbor County

Designation would include ornamental plantings of *Buddleja davidii*.

Bill said that San Juan County would be glad to have it designated and that they have a nursery that may be selling *Buddleja davidii* non-sterile cultivars. Wendy mentioned that she and Jason have talked about WSDA's Nursery Inspection program being able to send out an inspector to the nursery to check the stock.

Camelthorn:

- Designate Walla Walla County

Dalmatian toadflax:

- Designate Cowlitz County
- Designate Kittitas County
- Designate Franklin County

Tim noted that we're seeing a bit more Dalmatian toadflax in western WA but also seem to be making inroads on its control.

European coltsfoot:

- Designate in Adams, Lincoln, Benton, and Franklin Counties

Tim reported the European coltsfoot population they were shown this year in Snohomish County was growing right next to the Snohomish river in sandy soil, and he could see it growing anywhere in the state in riparian areas.

Fanwort:

- Designate Grays Harbor

Hairy willow-herb:

- Designate Walla Walla County

Hoary alyssum:

- Undesignate Spokane County

Houndstongue:

- Designate Douglas County
- Designate Franklin County

Indigobush:

- Undesignate Skamania County

Nonnative hawkweeds, wall subgenus (*Hieracium*)

- Undesignate Skamania County
- Undesignate Clark County

Nonnative hawkweeds, meadow subgenus (*Pilosella*)

- Undesignate Skamania County
- Designate Ferry County

Meadow knapweed:

- Undesignate Skamania County
- Undesignate Clark

Spotted knapweed:

- Undesignate Skamania County
- Undesignate Clark County

Shiny geranium:

- Undesignate Skamania County

Scientific name updates:

- Kochia: *Kochia scoparia* to *Bassia scoparia*
- Leafy spurge: *Euphorbia esula* to *Euphorbia virgata*
- Himalayan knotweed: *Polygonum polystachyum* to *Persicaria wallichii*
- Russian knapweed: *Acroptilon repens* to *Rhaponticum repens*
- Tansy ragwort: *Senecio jacobaea* to *Jacobaea vulgaris*

Monitor List species reviewed by the Noxious Weed Committee

- Creeping bellflower, *Campanula rapunculoides*, with Jason Ontjes as sponsor
- Mezeron, *Daphne mezereum*, holding off but may be coming back to add
- Rough chervil: *Chaerophyllum temulum*, with Sasha Shaw as sponsor
- Japanese sweet coltsfoot, *Petasites japonicus* var. *giganteus*, with Pat Grover as sponsor

Wendy will be sending out an email with monitor species information.

The Board decided to vote on all of the proposals grouped together.

- Mason County: designate Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), grass-leaved arrowhead (*Sagittaria graminea*), diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*), and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*).
- Ferry County: undesignate hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*).
- Brazilian elodea (*Egeria densa*): undesignate in Cowlitz County; designate in Pacific and Snohomish counties
- Butterfly bush (*Buddleja davidii*): designate in San Juan and Grays Harbor counties
- Camelthorn (*Alhagi maurorum*): designate in Walla Walla County
- Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica* ssp. *dalmatica*): designate in Cowlitz, Kittitas, and Franklin counties
- Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*): undesignate in Cowlitz County and designate in Kittitas County except for the Columbia River
- European coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*): designate in Adams, Lincoln, Benton, and Franklin counties
- Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*): designate in Grays Harbor County
- Hairy willow-herb (*Epilobium hirsutum*): designate in Walla Walla County
- Hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*): undesignate in Spokane County
- Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*): designate in Douglas and Franklin counties
- Indigobush (*Amorpha fruticosa*): undesignate in Skamania County
- Nonnative hawkweed species and hybrids, wall subgenus (*Hieracium*): undesignate in Skamania and Clark counties
- Nonnative hawkweed species and hybrids, meadow subgenus (*Pilosella*): undesignate in Skamania County and designate in Ferry County
- Meadow knapweed (*Centaurea x moncktonii*): undesignate in Skamania and Clark counties
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*): undesignate in Skamania and Clark counties

- Shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*): undesignate in Skamania County.

Proposed scientific name updates

- Kochia: *Kochia scoparia* to *Bassia scoparia*
- Leafy spurge: *Euphorbia esula* to *Euphorbia virgata*
- Himalayan knotweed: *Polygonum polystachyum* to *Persicaria wallichii*
- Russian knapweed: *Acroptilon repens* to *Rhaponticum repens*
- Tansy ragwort: *Senecio jacobaea* to *Jacobaea vulgaris*

<b>VOTE</b>	Jerry Hendrickson	Moved these proposed changes for the 2019 State Noxious Weed List to be considered at the public hearing
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
	Further discussion	Bill Agosta asked if this meant they will consider the proposed changes to Eurasian watermilfoil at the public hearing. Tim Miller answered that the Committee did support these proposals but also they would possibly be considering it a Class C next year. Tim also noted that this vote is for consideration of the proposals at the hearing only. The Board included the proposed Eurasian watermilfoil changes.
	The Board	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

Tony asked Brad to explain how the WSDA budget cut would affect the Board. Brad said that unfortunately a 5% cut would occur this fiscal year and that WSDA will try to get the funds back during this legislative session, but there are no guarantees. The 5% does not have to come out of a specific category in our budget spreadsheet, we just need to include it in this fiscal year.

**DISCUSSION TOPICS**

Draft Board Handbook

- Wendy relayed the message from Janet that she would like Board Members to look through the handout she put together titled “Suggestions for content in a Board Member’s Handbook”. If Board Members have comments and or suggestions to please go ahead and send those to her or Wendy and she can send them to Janet. Wendy received copies of board handbooks from Tony and Jerry that she will mail to Janet. Tony noted it is a state publication from 2010 on boards and commissions.
- Tony talked about the WAC 16-750-145 language changes to the Executive Secretary job description and adding a new section for the Education Specialist in WAC 16-750. At the last meeting he put forth the idea moving items 3, parts of 7, 8 and 9 into an Education Specialist job description in WAC 16-750. Also provided at this meeting is a job description for the Education Specialist. Wendy remarked she has not had time to review these possible changes.

The Board discussed:

- Ken wondered about taking items out of the Executive Secretary position and adding them strictly into an Educational Specialist position - if we may have a time when we don’t have an Educational Specialist, then the Executive Secretary would not be responsible. Tim suggested the

board could have wording ‘in the event we do not have an Education Specialist’ to cover this situation.

- Tony stated his concern about how the WAC 16-750-145 section is a big load on the Executive Secretary. Ken commented that they are still responsible to get all of the items listed done and can delegate. Wendy remarked that there is language in the law that allows the Executive Secretary to use office staff to accomplish items in this section.
- Tony asked if the board wanted to make a separate section. Wendy did suggest that an option could be to wait until they hire the new Executive Secretary, and next year they could work on updating the descriptions with their experience.
- Bill suggested to simply include the possibility of delegation in the Executive Secretary description, and that would allow it to not appear so onerous on the position. This could also leave things more flexible for the occasional changes in employment. Jerry thought that was a good idea. Tony asked where this might be included, and Bill said anywhere in the legal job description. They could either specify what was to be delegated or something flexible on the order of ‘appropriate portions of this can be delegated to available staff of the Weed Board’ or something similar that is flexible.
- Tim noted that if we want to refer to an Educational Specialist in this section, it will then need to be defined in the WAC.
- Tony confirmed that the Board would need to come up with language today or it would need to wait until next year. Cathy Lucero asked that if it was internal policy, does this need to go through the public hearing process. She believes there may be an exception if it does not affect the public. Brad said he can ask Henri, and if it doesn’t have to go to public hearing, it can be done at any time.
- Dirk, Jerry and Tim commented it would be fine to put this off one more year, allowing the new Executive Secretary to start. Tony summarized the discussion by stating it can either be put off one more year, or if it’s possible, they can update the WAC sooner without a public hearing.

#### Executive Secretary Update.

- Wendy provided the update. She has received input from some of the Board and the Hiring Committee about whether they should interview 4 or 5 candidates and would like the Board to decide today. Dirk thinks they should interview 5, other board members agreed.
- She said the interview committee members will be receiving a doodle poll to schedule the day of interviews.

#### The Board Discussed:

- Ken, speaking for himself and the weed boards in the SW part of the state, was disturbed with how the job announcement for the Executive Secretary went out; that the position would be a WSDA employee and not a Weed Board employee, and why the Weed Board was excluded. When the weed laws were established, they made a point to keep the Weed Board and WSDA separate.
- Tony said that after the last board meeting, he met with his legislators and asked about what the law meant in regard to this topic. His legislators met with the Director of WSDA, and they asked for an informal AG’s opinion. Tony is still waiting on that opinion.

- Ken noted this needs to be clarified before they hire a new Executive Secretary. Also, if the person is a WSDA employee, then the agency needs to find the money to hire this person and not use the weed board money.
- Brad asked the Board to think of WSDA like a host to the Executive Secretary. WSDA is there to provide payroll, leave tracking, taxes, and all administrative aspects. Technically, on paper, the supervisor for the Executive Secretary is the Assistant Director for Plant Protection, because the Executive Secretary cannot be in the system without having a state employee listed as their supervisor. The Executive Secretary's job though is to do what the State Weed Board wants - that is their job description. If the Weed Board budget were bigger, they could go out on their own and handle all of their own administrative needs and wouldn't have to rely on WSDA for anything.
- Tony asked Brad about how the Invasive Species Council is handled, if it was through WSDA. Brad said it is through the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), and that Justin is an employee of RCO but he works for the Invasive Species Council.
- Brad stated that WSDA is paying for the Executive Secretary position with general fund money that they allocate to the Weed Board. Tony thought the job announcement could have been clearer about who they work for, while Brad said that technically they are WSDA employees that work for the Weed Board. Tony talked about being a Weed District employee, and while he wasn't a county employee he was a public employee. An issue that has come up lately with county weed board employees is whether they are under control of their Board or the County Commissioners. Dirk noted that these are different issues, between a county and a state employee.
- Brad said that the Weed Board is selecting and hiring their Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary reports to the Weed Board, and the Weed Board can fire that person.
- Cathy asked if WSDA sets any duties for the Executive Secretary to use their time for specific tasks. Brad answered that in some cases they can and have done that.
- Tony asked if the Board's Code of Ethics had been sent out recently, and Wendy said that it had.

## **COORDINATORS FORUM**

- Cathy Lucero, Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board. They are working on control of the Italian thistle found in their county during a roadside survey. They found it in one of their county pits. They have many pits in the county, and they offer pit weed management plans and how to deal with road spoils. Their roadside plan is in place, for which they are receiving positive feedback, and are growing native plants to create pollinator corridors. They are primarily using aminopyralid in their roadside applications.
- Joseph Shea, Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board. He reported on their garlic mustard infestation by Day Creek, for which they sprayed last year, but more came back this year. They treated the site multiple times this year and are hopeful for good control.
- Laurel Baldwin, Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board: She reported on a false brome site they have been working on with five landowners. They were able to treat almost all of the plants, except for one parcel where they were not able to obtain permission. In general, they have had good results with control of false brome for this year and will keep at it. Tim asked her what

she was using, and she replied glyphosate and will be looking at reseeding next year. There is already active planting in the area as it is a CRP project.

- Jason Ontjes, San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board: He reported that they are just starting work with their local utility, clearing scotch broom and other weeds under power lines. They were finally able to sign a contract with the utility company this summer to be able to bill them for their work.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

No comments

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting will be November 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm for the public hearing and November 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am for the board meeting in Wenatchee and over WebEx. Wendy will send out hotel information for the board to stay over Tuesday night. Tony will be applying for travel reimbursement authorization for the board.

Tony also noted that the Legislative Committee is meeting in Ellensburg on September 25<sup>th</sup> to work more on 17.10 language.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am by a motion by Bill Agosta, seconded by Dirk Veleke.  
All in favor.

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Tony Stadelman, Chairman  
WSNWCB

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Dirk Veleke, Secretary  
WSNWCB