

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board January Meeting
9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 09, 2020
NRB - Room 184
1111 Washington St S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504
Online/Teleconferenced via WebEx

Handouts provided for meeting:

- Agenda for meeting
- Draft minutes of the November meeting
- Office Reports
- Publications Review
- Financial Report
- Draft RCW 17.10 Changes
- Publication request summary
- State Noxious Weed List Brochures

Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman Tony Stadelman.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present

Tony Stadelman		Jenifer Parsons (WebEx)
Jerry Hendrickson (WebEx)	Janet Spingath (WebEx)	Steven Seefeldt (WebEx)
Dirk Veleke (WebEx)	Brad White	
Ken Bajema	Carey Caruso (WebEx)	

Others present:

Mary Fee, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Wendy DesCamp, WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich, WA State Department of Agriculture
Justin Bush, WA Invasive Species Council
Todd Palzer, WA Department of Natural Resources
Micki McNaughton, WA Department of Natural Resources, Puget Sound Corp Crew
Ray Willard, WA Department of Transportation
Emily Stevenson, Skamania County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
Jennifer Mendoza, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
Beth Tanner, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
Bill Wamsley, Lewis County Noxious Weed Control Board
Casey Grisley, Lewis County Noxious Weed Control Board
Jason Ontjes, San Juan County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
Justin Collell, Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)

Gerry Saw, Snohomish County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)
Alicia Bodeen Greda, Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board (WebEx)

STATE AGENCY UPDATES:

Justin Bush, Washington Invasive Species Council provided the following update:

- Western Governors' have formed the Western Invasive Species Council and appointed members. Justin has been appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to represent Washington and is the first chair. The council will serve three primary purposes:
 - Enhance coordination between existing state invasive species council and coordinating bodies;
 - Improve communication and collaboration on regional biosecurity and invasive species control efforts;
 - Work to identify and address cross-boundary and cross-jurisdictional challenges.
- The council has several initial projects focusing on data mobilization, invasive grasses, educational messaging, and transboundary feral swine. Justin and a team of experts from Washington are assisting project workgroups.
- Their first meeting will be held in Denver in April.
- Justin reported on Washington Invasive Species Council.
 - Last year focused on preparedness and response on invasive quagga and zebra mussels, culminating in the first operations-focused response exercise in the Western United States.
 - The Washington Invasive Species Council has utilized traditional outreach events, as well as social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter reaching over 622,000 people in 2019.
 - Looking to the future the council and Department of Fish and Wildlife are identifying four locations to pilot clean, drain, dry, decontaminate (CD3) units at boat launches.
 - Justin also spoke about Middle School education materials and curriculum pertaining to invasive species that was developed in 2019.

Ray Willard, Washington State Department of Transportation provided the following update:

- WSDOT is continuing to develop a GIS inventory of managed lands, weed infestations, and planned IVM treatments. This inventory reflects the contents of the agency's Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plans and is the basis for WSDOT's asset management plan for roadsides.
- Ray will be in DC next week speaking about pollinator protection and invasive species management as it pertains to the Asset Management Model for roadsides. The research committee Ray is a part of is working on a proposed project to develop a national model for practicing Integrated Vegetation Management and most sustainable maintenance practices. The Roadside Asset Management Model WSDOT is proposing as the basis for the national model.

- Ray spoke about the need to think about balance between improvements and development and natural areas. He helped explain how we classify and manage roadsides nationwide.
- The WSDOT budget was presented looking over the past 10 years with a marked decline in the last 5 years. Ray spoke about the challenge of being proactive rather than reactive given the lack of an adequate budget. Tony asked about contracting out the weed control. Ray explained that this can be complicated but is open to the idea. Tony asked if WSDOT has a designated noxious weed budget. Ray explained that the noxious weed budget is based on meeting the legislative budget target service level for noxious weeds.
- Ray found cogon grass along Highway 28 in Ephrata, and has seen it on other Eastern Washington roadsides in more urban settings. Ray will like to work with the noxious weed boards to map the inventory and monitor this species to see if it needs to be listed.
- Janet asked what the most effective way to help meet WSDOT goals would be. Ray replied by asking or figuring out a way to map infestations at a local level. Janet suggested that this be an agenda item to talk about at a future meeting. Justin Collell asked about nuisance weeds. Ray explained the priority of noxious weeds. Todd asked about data for non-treatment areas. Ray stated that the data is used for critical planning. Tony asked about the cost per treated acre. Ray explained that it was dependent on the roadside zone. Zone 1 cost about \$200 per acre, Zone 2 cost about \$239 per acres and Zone 3 cost about \$18 per acre.

Todd Palzer, Washington Department of Natural Resources provided the following update:

- Todd explained that funding for aquatic treatments is primarily generated internally. One avenue of funding is geoduck which has dropped due to tariffs. Therefore, the agency has not approved a full budget. Budget approval has only been given for high priority projects. Ken asked if any general funding is being used. Todd stated that only revenue from geoduck and marina leasing etc. is available.
- Puget Sound Corp time has been drastically reduced down to 83 days.

Brad White, Washington State Department of Agriculture provided the following update:

- Brad stated that Greg has been promoted to Pest Program Manager and will fill the Noxious Weed Coordinator position in Yakima in the near future. Greg will continue to work some overlap until that position is filled.
- During gypsy moth field season Asian giant hornet was found in December. The hornet can be up to 2 inches long. This is a new invasive insect for WSDA and the state of Washington.
- Aquatic lands funding for Spartina control program has had a continued reduction of approximately \$400,000 per biennium.

Greg Haubrich, Washington State Department of Agriculture provided the following update:

- Greg spoke about the Request for Proposals for Forest Service based funding. There is \$70,000 total with \$5,000 available per project.

Jenifer Parsons, Department of Ecology provided the following update:

- Jenifer spoke about the funding for flowering rush provided by the Army Corp of Engineers. Although funds have been dedicated to flowering rush, they are unable to be

spent yet. Jenifer described 2 projects in Pend Oreille County, one on Lake Entiat, one on the Yakima River, one on Silver Lake, one on the Columbia River, and one on the Nisqually River. Greg mentioned that the Army Corp funding will be run through WSDA.

Dave Heimer, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife will provide an update in March.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes for the November 6th regular meeting

VOTE	Ken Bajema	Moved to accept the minutes for the November 6 th regular meeting.
	Brad White	Seconded the motion
	<i>The Board</i>	All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

OFFICE REPORTS

Mary Fee highlighted tasks and events from the mid-Nov., Dec., and early Jan. office reports.

- She has been answering calls and requests from county noxious weed boards regarding adopting the county noxious weed list.
- Mary has worked with WSDA on travel approvals, travel reimbursements, and other internal procedures.
- Mary worked on preparation for and presented at the WSNWCB weed list hearing, attended the WSNWCB meeting, and presented at the November Weed Conference in Wenatchee Nov. 5th through the 8th.
- Mary attended the Wahkiakum County Commissioners Meeting Nov. 12th and Okanogan County NWCB Meeting Nov. 20th
- Mary attended the Pollinator Health Task Force meeting in Yakima Dec. 9th , and spoke about the task force goals.
- Both Mary and Wendy attended the Innovations in Invasive Species Management Conference in Coeur d’Alene ID, Dec. 9th – 12th
- Mary and Wendy also attended the Chehalis River Coordinated Weed Management Area meeting Dec. 17th and Mary attended the WISC meeting on Dec. 19th. She spoke about the WISC tour in Okanogan County.
- Mary has researched AG opinions on county assessments and structure and has attended the Jefferson County NWCB meeting on Dec. 17th and the Kitsap County NWCB meeting and assessment hearing on Jan. 7th.
- Mary continues to work on RCW 17.10 draft changes and the draft bill. She has held RCW 17.10 agency informational meetings Nov. 22nd, 25th, and 26th
- She has also updated the RFP for class A projects, and is working on a flowering rush Ecology grant proposal.

Wendy DesCamp highlighted tasks and events from the mid-Nov., Dec., and early Jan. office reports.

- Wendy worked on the 2020 noxious weed list updates, preparation for and presented at the WSNWCB weed list hearing, attended the WSNWCB meeting, and presented at the November Weed Conference in Wenatchee Nov. 5th through the 8th.
- Wendy created the 2020 Noxious Weed List Files

- Wendy also presented at the Olympic Invasive Working Group Meeting on Nov. 13th
- Wendy attended the WA Botanical Symposium Planning Meeting Dec. 5th
- Wendy has continued to work on Facebook posts, filling publication and seed packet requests, and website updates.
- Wendy is working with Jennifer Andreas on the development of a tree-of-heaven and spotted lanternfly brochure. Wendy has also began working on the reprint of Eastern and Western WA field guides.
- Wendy provided a review handout of our 2019 publication requests. She stated that we have received a total of 430 publication requests in 2019. To date we have received 882 publication requests through the online form. The majority of requests are from individuals, county or district weed programs, and non-profit organizations. Wendy mentioned the correlation between high peak request times and the Garden Wise printing in March.
- Wendy continues to support county noxious weed board by providing publications and resources.

BUDGET REPORT

The Board reviewed the financial spreadsheet for the current budget report.

- Mary reviewed the current budget numbers and reported that there is about a \$5,000 buffer in the budget. She stated that there is enough funding for travel for the March and potentially May meetings as well as for printing, seed packets, and class A projects. If there is any funding left at the end of the year, Mary suggested spending it on boot brushes, office supplies, and herbicide.
- Mary asked Brad about the AG bill and if WSDA has seen it. Brad gets a quarterly report on budget spending and will check.
- Mary presented the updated RFP for class A proposals and discussed the \$15,000 budget for class A projects. The board discussed clarification on what types of activities would be funded this year.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Legislative Committee Update

- Tony met with Senator Warnick and Representative Dent. Rep. Dent wanted clarification about the assessment. Tony spoke about the language in 17.04 pertaining to assessments and thought that this might also encourage counties to move to an assessment.
- Mary spoke about Senator Warnick's bill and changes suggested by state agencies concerning ownership and management of parcels or property. Mary submitted the last changes to Senator Warnick and has not seen an updated draft.
- Tony explained the process and stated that Rep. Dent will be submitting a House Bill.
- Mary met previously with WSDA policy team and thought WSDA would remain neutral.
- Mary sent out a description of changes in summary format for board members to use in discussions.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Mary spoke about CWMA's and the Board's interest and participation in them. Mary asked about the Board being on the MOU's for CWMA's. The MOU just states that we will partner with others within that CWMA but does not require any funding obligation. Tony stated that the Board supports the CWMA's. Jerry questioned which CWMA's and how the board would participate. Mary explained that she has attended several CWMA meetings including some of the larger Columbia River CWMA's and regional ones. Tony agreed that attending meetings is important as long as it does not take away from higher priorities. Jerry agreed and stated that it is important to be involved.

COORDINATORS FORUM

- Cathy Lucero commented on Ray Willards presentation and agreed that it would be very helpful if everyone could share data. She asked about a letter of support or help with asking legislation for a way to fund this. Todd agreed but commented that this could be very expensive.
- Cathy also spoke about Bill Agosta's suggestion via email that the May meeting be held in Clallam County.
- Tony asked if Cathy would be able to testify at the bill hearings for RCW 17.10. Cathy stated she will not be available. Dana Cogan was suggested. Tony appointed her to the Legislative Committee and Mary will reach out to her.
- Jason Ontjes is working on an IWMP for the San Juan County adapting from Clallam County's.
- Gerry Saw has been working on data entry and is hoping to get an assistant before the season starts.
- Jennifer Mendoza has been working on by-laws, an MOU, and policy and procedures for Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board. She will also be holding a recert class March 3rd.
- Bill Wamsley has been working on data and mapping and getting ready for the season.

Meeting adjourned for executive session for Personnel Evaluations per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) at 11:06 a.m. Meeting Re-opened at 11:31 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No Public Comments

The board meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m. by a motion by Ken Bajema, and seconded by Janet Spingath. All in favor.

Tony Stadelman, Chairman
WSNWCB

Dirk Veleke, Secretary
WSNWCB

Mary Fee, Executive Secretary WSNWCB