

**Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting
September 17, 2012
Online/Teleconferenced meeting via GoToWebinar and
Hosted at the Walla Walla Community College – Clarkston Campus**

Meeting called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Butch Klaveano
Roll Call and Introductions

Board Members Present

Butch Klaveano	William Agosta (via GoTo Webinar)
Jerry Hendrickson	Sarah Cooke (via GoTo Webinar)
Joe Coombs	Mary Toohey (via GoTo Webinar; called in later on)

Others Present

Alison Halpern	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Wendy DesCamp	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Greg Haubrich	Washington State Department of Agriculture via GoTo Webinar
Nelle Murray	Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board
Glenn Lebsack	Clark County Vegetation Management via GoTo Webinar
Mike Monfort	Clark County Vegetation Management via GoTo Webinar
Angelica Velazquez	Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Board via GoTo Webinar
Anna Lyon	Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board via GoTo Webinar

Butch thanked Nelle for hosting the meeting in Clarkston.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Butch entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Moved to approve minutes for the July 2012 board meeting
		Alison requested that the minutes be amended to note that Joe Coombs and Jerry Hendrickson were present but muted.
	Jerry Hendrickson	Seconded the motion with the amended language
		All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Butch did not have much to update, other than that the weeds had dried up.
 Jerry thanked Nelle for the great weed tour and dinner she gave him, Wendy, and Alison yesterday. He has been spraying a lot of weeds.
 Joe noted that the weeds came on a week or two later than usual and then made up for lost time. The herbicide application window was pretty short. Fewer citations than usual this year for Spokane County
 Sarah said that on the westside, it was very wet early on and that the weeds extended their season.
 Bill observed that the weeds were about six weeks late, and that tansy ragwort was very successful this year.
 Nelle agreed that the weeds had prolonged their presence. They are still working on rush skeletonweed this time of year, and typically start the treatment season in June. Mediterranean sage is still a big concern. Because of the late rains, the rosettes coming up later into spring. They had a \$25k cost share program, spraying 2000 acres. They hope to extend control time of weeds such as yellow starthistle with the combination of spraying and biocontrols.

OFFICE REPORT

The Board reviewed office reports for August and a partial report for September. Attendees in Clarkston received samples of the new outreach stickers.

Alison:

- Has been busy dissertating and has taken several vacation days to do so.
- The focus of the summer and fall has been on rule-making , especially updating the Class B designations
- Attended a great workshop on advanced facilitation that was provided by the Washington Conservation Commission. It was a very helpful training.
- Wendy and Alison attended the well-organized and informative Weeds Cross Borders Tours on August 8.

Wendy:

- Working on written findings for 2013 noxious weed list proposals
- Has also been gathering information for the Noxious Weed Committee meeting
- Noted that there has been an increase in office emails and phone calls
- Stickers for Kids: Weed 'em Out have been designed and produced.

The Board discussed:

- Butch: At the Garfield County fair, the Master Gardeners had Weed 'Em out materials and Garden Wise Booklets available. He saw several people picking up brochures.

FINANCIAL REPORT

There was no July report because most of July expenditures had not posted. The Board discussed:

- Storage unit rental fee for June was paid late, which mean that there would be two payments made in July.
- The Budget Committee needs the Board to discuss allotments for FY13. Tony thought it would be best discussed in person at the November Board meeting. Budget committee will meet and report to the board in November.

The Board discussed:

- Jerry asked what is in the storage units. The storage units hold the many boxes of brochures and educational material.

WSDA UPDATE

Greg Haubrich provided the update.

- Knotweed and Spartina programs are going well. USFA Forest Health Protection (FHP) contracts are all caught up.

The Board discussed:

- Jerry asked if all the money had been used up on the projects. Greg answered that all the FHP had been allocated except for a small amount for ED/RR.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The review of the strategic plan was deferred to November.

NOXIOUS WEED COMMITTEE UPDATE

Alison provided a PowerPoint presentation and presented the NWC update on Dave Heimer's behalf. The NWC held its final meeting of 2012 and made its final recommendations for proposed changes to the 2013 noxious weed list. These changes included:

Adding French Broom as a Class A noxious weed

- There is one known infestation on UW property in King County, which is spreading prolifically.
- Already a listed noxious weed in OR, CA, and HI
- Angelica mentioned that there might be one site of French broom in Cowlitz County, which was a deliberate planting. She collected some seeds and sent them off to be identified.
- The NWC recommended that French broom be listed as a Class A noxious weed.

Adding tall hawkweed as a Class B noxious weed

- King County NWCB submitted the proposal.
- Its distribution appears to be limited to a few counties.
- The NWC had discussed the potential difficulty distinguishing it from some other hawkweed species, but King County NWCB felt fairly confident that it could be identified.
- The NWC recommended that tall hawkweed be listed as a Class B, designated everywhere except Stevens and Pend Oreille counties.

Adding common teasel as a Class C noxious weed

- Skagit County NWCB submitted the proposal. Their coordinator Bill Rogers had provided some new information, based on preliminary seed viability studies.
- Skagit County NWCB chairman Jim Hinton phoned into the July NWC meeting to provide more information and to answer questions.
- There was a push to list common teasel from farmers and county weed boards of Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties as it appears to be spreading more rapidly, and they are finding it in good pasture land. It is also a seed crop contaminant.
- NWC: recommend it be added as a Class C noxious weed

Adding common barberry as a Class C noxious weed

- Proposal submitted by WSU researchers from Pullman and Spokane.
- Common barberry is able to spread readily in dry counties; however the real concern is that it's an alternate host for stem rust. When the rust overwinters on the barberry it can sexually reproduce, allowing more genetic variability. This increased genetic diversity can lead to fungicide resistance.
- Common barberry is currently quarantined. The destruction of barberry in wheat-growing regions is required, but WSDA lacks the resources to enforce this rule.
- WSU researchers, Mary, Greg, Tom Wessels, Wendy and Alison held a meeting in January to discuss their proposal and the value of a Class C listing, which would enhance education and outreach.
- NWC recommended it be added as a Class C noxious weed
- The Board discussed:
 - Joe mentioned that he hadn't seen it in Spokane County. Butch recalled controlling it as a boy and noted that there is common barberry in Whitman County.
 - There was a good article in Capitol Press about black stem rust two weeks ago.

Japanese Eelgrass

- Pacific County Weed Board had submitted the proposal to list Japanese eelgrass as a Class C noxious weed without limiting it to commercially managed shellfish beds
- No new scientific data was submitted indicating that it is having additional negative impacts outside of shellfish beds.
- This has been the first year Japanese eelgrass had been on the weed list. It seemed too early to gauge the effect of the modified listing.

- Dr. Kim Patton had conducted efficacy trials with Imazamox, and Ecology was working on a draft NPDES permit that would allow the use of Imazamox on commercial clam beds in Willapa bay only.
- The noxious weed listing would likely not have any effect on Ecology’s permitting process.
- The NWC recommended against changing the current modified listing of Japanese eelgrass at this time due to the lack of new scientific data and due to the limited control options for landowners who are not commercial clam growers in Willapa Bay.

Revamping the weed list

- Alison has updated Class B designations based on the new proposed 6-region noxious weed map. She has been communicating with most county coordinators and learned that:
 - There are cases where it makes sense to designate a Class B everywhere in the state.
 - In many cases, coordinators want the state to take a more active role in designating Class B noxious weeds when they are a high priority.
 - Of the 21 Class B noxious weeds that were preliminary Class C candidates, only 11 are now being proposed to be changed to Class C noxious weeds.
 - Alison mentioned the discussion she’d had with the NWC about hawkweeds, and whether the weed list might be simplified by grouping hawkweeds by sub-genus. There will be additional talk about this.
 - The Board discussed:
 - a. Joe congratulated Alison in finishing such a large project.
 - b. The distribution maps had been created by Greg Haubrich and Marshall Udo. Landon will be working with Greg now.

The Board reviewed the summary of all proposed changes to the noxious weed list.

VOTE	Jerry Hendrickson	Moved to hold a public hearing on all proposed changes
	Bill Agosta	Seconded the motion
		Jerry, Joe, Bill, and Sarah voted in favor [Mary was not yet present at the meeting], motion carried.

The public hearing will be on Tuesday, Nov. 6th from 1-3 p.m. in the conference room on the second floor of the WSDA building in Yakima. Alison and Wendy will write a press release and will distribute it to the newspapers.

Joe mentioned that he had trouble with GoTo Webinar last meeting. Alison suggested that she and Wendy host some trouble-shooting webinars with no more than four board members at a time (to prevent having a quorum). Sarah mentioned that the GoToMeetings worked well on her iPhone.

COORDINATORS FORUM

Nelle gave an update for Asotin County.

- She thanked the Board for outreach materials. They were great quality materials to give out at events, including the outdoor show in Lewiston (with OR).
- She also thanked both WSDA and the State Weed Board for specials project money. Even small amounts were great for matching other grants, such as from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.
- They found four new species in Asotin County over the past two years.
- Ventenata and medusahead are on the verge of becoming catastrophic for Asotin County, attacking healthy rangeland, bunchgrass communities where they can do irreparable harm. They

are looking for ideas, and conducting trial herbicides plots and taking soil samples and to learn more.

The Board discussed:

- Joe had seen a lot of medusahead.
- Alison asked if a Class C listing – at least for education – would help.
- Nelle believed that the best thing would be to fast-track Anne Kennedy’s work on microbial control strategies. Her monitor work was only approved for 10 acres at this time.
- Greg asked Nelle if any crupina had been found along the Oregon border. Nelle answered that the whole area between Joseph Creek and the Snake River (71K acres) had recently burned. She wasn’t sure what they had found before the wildfires.

MEETING EVALUATION

Alison appreciated the Walla Walla Community College again for letting us use their campus; it was a great meeting location. Butch thanked Nelle for making all the arrangements.

VOTE	Bill Agosta	Move to adjourn the meeting
	Joe Coombs	Seconded the motion
		All in favor, no opposition, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Butch Klaveano, Chairman
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Alison Halpern, Executive Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board

Tony Stadelman, Secretary
Washington State Noxious Weed