

Oregon State Weed Board Meeting
September 23-24, 2004
Geiser Grand Hotel
Baker City, Oregon

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present

Bill Hansell, Chairman
Ken Bare
Patty Milne
Jim Harris
Jerry Erstrom

Absent

Dan Hilburn
Don Richards

Others

Tim Butler, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Tom Forney, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Shannon Brubaker, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Jo Davis, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Glenn Miller, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Dave Langland, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Bonnie Rasmussen, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Eric Coombs, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Beth Myers, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Bob Barrett, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Gary Page, Malheur County
Arnie Grammon, Baker County
Ross Shumway, Upper Burnt River Weed District
Patty Shumway, Baker County
Lynn Silva, Bureau of Land Management
Gary Brown, USDA-APHIS
Misty Bennett, Morrow SWCD
Bill Reynolds, Bureau of Indian Affairs Warm Springs
Allen Schnetzky, Wallowa County
Dan Sherwin, Deschutes County
Sandy Smith, Wasco County, OVMA
Dan Farrar, Gilliam County
Merle Keys, Wasco County Weed Department
Mike Woods, Bureau of Land Management
Mark Porter, Wallowa Resources

September 23, 2004

Welcome and Introductions

Patti Milne called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Approval of February 19-20, 2004 Meeting Minutes

There were no questions or concerns regarding the minutes from the Oregon State Weed Board meeting on February 19-20, 2004. Minutes were approved as submitted.

Housekeeping Items – Tim Butler, ODA

Tim introduced the two new staff in the Noxious Weed Control Program, Salem. Jo Davis, Program Assistant and Beth Myers, Weed Management Technician.

Biocontrol Book:

The publication of a biocontrol book - "Biological Control of Invasive Plants in the U.S." edited by Eric Coombs (ODA), Janet K. Clark (CIPM), Gary L. Piper, and Alfred F. Cofrancesco, Jr. Eric Coombs briefly spoke of the book thanking Tim Butler for allowing Eric the opportunity to work on this book. The book is primarily put together for land managers as a how-to in biocontrol.

New ODA Website:

ODA website is changing to a new system. The old site will link grant applications to the new site. The grant application will be available on the site.

WeedMapper:

ODA is continuing to work with Doug Johnson of OSU. It is a slow process, but progress is being made and hopefully the updated version of WeedMapper will be on the website soon. Part of that process is the possibility of hiring a coordinator at ODA. However, this position will be dependent on available funding. The position will work on WeedMapper and education outreach. ODA is hoping to get that new position open sometime this fall or early winter.

INW 2004:

Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium: Will be on Dec 7-9, 2004 in Corvallis. Flyers and agenda will be mailed out soon.

Lobbying Protocol:

The board asked Tim Butler to draft up a guideline of protocol. There is a copy in the board member's packets. This item will be discussed tomorrow. The idea behind it is to make sure the grant application process is fair for everyone even for those grant applicants who are not able to attend the meeting.

Weed Free Forage:

Certification program for the state. Currently only Wallowa County in Oregon has a certification program in place. It is a long road for our administration to institute a program. It is a difficult process. The plan is to start a pilot program this winter on a statewide basis. ODA is actively looking at adopting a program to certify straw and hay that meets NAWMA standards.

Reporting Form:

A draft of a standard reporting form for grant reporting is in the board member's packet. A standard reporting format for grant reporting is needed. This reporting form will be finalized as soon as possible and will be available on the ODA web site.

Paterson's curse:

Has a major impact to natural resources in Australia. There are two major known sites in Oregon. Patterson's curse could very well be widespread as it was in wildflower mixes sold in Oregon. Currently, there is no seed law as far as regulations on wildflower mixes in Oregon. Paterson's curse originated in Western Europe and the Mediterranean. It was first recorded in Australia in the mid-1800s. It is annual or biennial. Flowers often blue-purple in color, but may be pink or white. It can produce to 5,000 seeds per plant. It has the highest potential impacts on range and pasture. It is poisonous to livestock and can result in liver damage on cattle and horses. It can cause severe hay fever and impacts to natural areas such as oak woodlands. National distribution is in eastern states and California. First reported in August of 2003 in Linn County. A farmer who wanted a border planted it from a wildflower mix. Plants were removed in August 2003, bagged before it seeded. Later in the fall, the site was chemically treated. In May of 2004, a second site was

confirmed in Douglas County. It is a very significant site, covering 300 acres. It was initially found in 1996 but was miss-identified as Texas blueweed. The Douglas County Paterson's curse project is a cooperative project between Roseburg Forest Products, K-Bar Ranch/Cow Creek Indian Tribe, Douglas SWCD and ODA. There was a 2-day turn around time after the initial meeting between cooperators and the initial aerial ground treatment of the site. There was aerial treatment using Transline plus LV6 and Silicon based surfactant. Ground treatment done using Roundup and Transline on 80 acres. There was a follow up spot treatments using ATV's and backpack sprayers. The aerial treatment was effective but the ground treatment had better results. Idaho has a Paterson's curse infestation as well. An ODOT staff founded it after receiving a plant alert flyer from ODA. There were also some sites found in California.

Spartina Project:

ODA followed up on the *Spartina* project on Cox Island. It is the only known infestation in Oregon. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has been controlling the *Spartina* since 1998. TNC's primary control methods have been covering. The coverings stay on for two years and are achieving control. It appears that it is working except it is extremely slow and costly. Mowing of uncovered area appears to be preventing seeding. The remaining area to be covered is one acre. The cost per acre is high.

Tom Forney- noted about the different grants TNC received for the *Spartina* project. US Fish and Wildlife awarded TNC \$20,000. OSWB awarded TNC a total of \$10,000. Part of that money was not used for just covering, part of it was survey. The Board elevated *Spartina* to an "A" weed last February, as it is the only site in Oregon and is high priority. ODA is looking at assisting TNC in securing resources to cover the remaining acre during 2005. ODA staff will be helping TNC to do some covering. There is a concern with a power line replacement and the potential for spread of the weed due to soil disturbance. A lot of the covers were close to the power poles. That fact might change the timeline for TNC to finish the covering of the *Spartina*.

Himalayan blackberry biocontrol:

There was a meeting in Roseburg in May 2004. There were 70 attendees. The meeting was organized by Douglas SWCD and ODA to discuss the potential for wild blackberry biocontrol using a rust fungus. It was an informational meeting. ODA is currently working on a task list that will help to provide some framework to the process. The next step in the process will be to identify the highest priority tasks that can help ODA and cooperators move forward. ODA had some discussion with USDA. They were very interested in the project.

Dan Sharratt, ODA - NE Oregon Update

In NE Oregon, cooperators have been working towards protecting Eastern Oregon native plants that are being invaded by noxious weeds. Together with the Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife botanists and weed people, Dan Sharratt made a trip this summer to the Hells Canyon area. One particular plant stands out on this trip is the McFarlane's four o'clock. This plant is a federally listed rare plant that grows in Hells Canyon, Sun River, and Snake River. Noxious weed dalmation toadflax is moving in this protected plant area as well as yellow starthistle. Four o'clock is a spectacular and gorgeous plant. It is a remarkable plant and almost impossible to propagate. This plant blooms in May. Dalmation toadflax is a perennial plant and very aggressive. The McFarlane's four o'clock is easily invaded. The area has limited access, therefore is difficult to spray. Biocontrol being used is a stem-boring beetle. ODA were able to get those agents out there this spring. The insect population spread readily. The result is fairly optimistic. They are starting to see localized reduction in the toadflax plant. Given the kind of vegetation on those sites, they are optimistic if they get the insect growing, the Dalmatian toadflax will be controlled. Japanese knotweed was detected on Somers's bar; some has spread in Hells Canyon through Snake River below Pittsburg landing, access is only by jet boat from the bottom and 15 miles to the top. Mark Porter flew over later in the summer witnessed 40 + plants up the canyon at the old homestead where it started and all the way to the creek at the bottom. It is completely dominated by Japanese knotweed.

Vale District- There is rare Astragalus plant population that needs protection from invasive weeds. Astragalus blooms in April. There is a lot of rush skeletonweed in the area. Large rush skeletonweed infestation location encompasses 2500 acres. There were four acres treated. Squarrose knapweed spread about 400 acres in the area including the bottom of Deschutes River. Plumeless thistle was found in Fox Valley, the only found spot in Oregon. It is widely spread across US and Canada. It is unfortunate Oregon has it, also generally called spiney plumeless thistle.

Mike Woods – BLM, Vale District

Fiscal Year 2004 District Program Budget:

\$557,500 in project dollars from various BLM programs including fire rehab.

\$300,000 of this was for projects in Baker Resource Area

\$50,000 contracted projects to Oregon Department of Agriculture

BLM is making significant progress in reducing the leafy spurge, diffuse knapweed, and yellow starthistle in Baker County. Until just the past 2 or 3 years BLM had not been addressing Scotch thistle due to budget constraints. With additional funding BLM has been able to make a noticeable impact on these species recently. The same is true for the most part on the Lower Grande Ronde River with diffuse knapweed and yellow starthistle. Biocontrol releases over the past several years with ODA have been an important factor. Species of concern is rush skeletonweed, which is increasing in the Snake River Canyon as well as dalmation toadflax. Although it has been present for some time, Saltcedar (tamarisk) is now increasing noticeable along the Snake and Owyhee Rivers. BLM has a new \$50,000 project approved by the Washington office to begin treatments on both rivers in 2005. Due to the court injunction, BLM are not able to use metsulfuron on whitetop and are losing ground in places, particularly in the Unity and Durkee areas in Baker County. Leafy spurge is stable for the most part along the Grande Ronde but dalmation toadflax is on the increase. Riparian vegetation recovery from the 1996/97 floods, with willows and sedges increasing significantly along the banks, should help hold these two noxious weed species in check for now.

Partnerships: Much of the actual on the groundwork on public land is accomplished through partnerships with Tri-County CWMA, the Lower Grande Ronde Noxious Weed Program coordinated thru Wallowa Resources, and several county MOU's. BLM also has a new Intergovernmental Agreement with the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in place.

| <u>Partnership Name:</u> | <u>BLM \$ 2004</u> | <u>Cooperators</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|--|--------------------|--|--|
| Tri-County CWMA | \$95,000 | Baker, Union Wallowa Counties | Key partner in NE Oregon |
| Lower Grande Ronde River Nox. Weed Program | \$95,000 | Wallowa Resources + Tri-County CWMA + others | Has been highly effective coordinated effort in remote country |
| Tri-State Demo WMA | \$30,000 | Feds, State, TNC Private, Colleges County Agencies | Multi-state. Good Exchange of new information between members |
| Jordan Valley CWMA | \$25,000 | Idaho & Oregon Agencies/Private Sector | New CWMA this year |
| Jordan Valley Project | \$15,000 | ODOT, Malheur County | Very effective joint effort |
| County MOU's | \$ 8,000 | Various counties within the district | Good cooperation from counties |

Much of the rest of the work within the district is through private contractors; approx. \$160,000 in new contracts were awarded this year. BLM is shifting more emphasis to restoration of treated sites as funding allows. Management challenges are:

- 1.) Previously mentioned court injunction still limits herbicide use in Oregon to four chemicals on public land. This prevents the Bureau from using newer more effective chemicals on certain species. Once the new national BLM vegetation management EIS is final, Oregon BLM will be asking the court to lift the injunction.
- 2.) Getting people to understand that more often than not a weed problem is an indicator of other management issues that need to be addressed before the weed situation can be resolved.

Mark Porter – Wallowa Resources (WR)

Mark Porter acknowledged BLM funding along with OSWB for being the catalyst of WR Weed Control program particularly in NE Oregon, the Tri-county and Lower Grande. They were able to take those funds and go places treating weeds. WR is a private non-profit organization dedicated to sustaining Wallowa County’s economy and ecosystems. WR try to do seamless treatment and vegetation management throughout the program area. They have 2 states, 3 counties, BLM, 2 forests, for 3 ranger districts and blocks of diverse private ownership. They had 2 grants with OSWB along side with a BLM project where they floated the Lower Grande Ronde River twice. They realized that they are missing some weeds on the Upper River and Lower River because they bloom at different times. This year they floated the river twice and were able to treat all the known sites with 98 % landowner involvement. WR are doing meadow knapweed, rush skeletonweed, spotted knapweed, leafy spurge and dalmation toadflax. They did projects with high priority weeds and inventoried this summer; they worked with Boise Building Solutions who has been aggressively treating noxious weeds. They worked with contractors to partner and cover more areas. They have a hundred new sites and found and treated them with a SWAT team method. They have developed 7 contractors that are very well equipped and experienced in weed treatment. A couple of other projects in the Lower Grande Ronde - Elk Foundation agreed to fund in part weed treatments but also WR weed bounty program. They put out bounties for new sites of high priority weeds in the area. Hunters, fishermen, birdwatchers and hikers might realize that if they pay attention to the area and look for weeds they can turn in their information of new weed sites for a bounty. WR are also working with Idaho to do digital area mapping. At the right timeline this summer, they flew on a helicopter equipped with live screen map looking and mapping high priority weeds in Lower Grande Ronde River.

Arnie Grammon – presenting for Dan Durfey of Tri-County Cooperative Weed Management Area Tri-County Cooperative Weed Management Area brings BLM, Forest Service, Idaho Power, Baker, Wallowa and Union counties and private landowners together to fight noxious weeds. BLM and private landowners Rush skeletonweed helicopter project - In May 2004, 500 acres were aerially sprayed using helicopter. Idaho Power, BLM and private landowners Rush skeletonweed ground project – east of Richland is the primary focus on skeletonweed. A lot of the ground is very steep and not easy to deal with. Survey was done for Forest Service on skeletonweed. The concern is Forest Service cannot use particular herbicide on their land. Tri-County CMWA created GIS mapping system. Tri-County Regional Weed Maps project by bringing together state agencies, local governments, private applicators, and private landowners to create a regional weed map

Tri-County OSWB Grants 02-03

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| • Bugloss 2002 | \$5,000 |
| • Japanese knotweed 2003 | \$5,000 |
| • Bugloss 2003 | \$10,000 |
| • Hawkweed 2003 | \$10,000 |
| • Whitetop 2003 | \$20,000 |
| Tri-County Total Grants | \$50,000 |

Common Bugloss

- Wallowa County Received \$6,500
- Union County Received \$3,900
- Baker County Received \$2,200
- Total acres Treated 414.9
- Total acres Surveyed 3350

Japanese Knotweed

- Wallowa County Received \$500
- Total Acres Surveyed 500
- Total Acres Treated 10

Yellow Hawkweed

- Wallowa County Received \$4,000
- Surveyed acres 4,000
- Treated acres 198

Whitetop

- Wallowa County Received \$3,166
- Union County Received \$4,166
- Baker County Received \$7,166
- Surveyed acres 10,000
- Treated acres 1,000

Rush Skeleton Weed Grant In Progress

- Wallowa County \$2,000
- Wallowa Resources \$2,000
- Baker County \$3,000
- Surveyed acres 5,000
- Current acres treated 400
- More acres are scheduled for treatment this fall

Arnie Grammon – Baker County Weed Supervisor

This year is the second year of mandatory compliance on 20 weeds. Mandatory control began in spring of 2002. Baker County recently added two more to the list - Japanese knotweed, and myrtle spurge. In addition to the 20, they now require whitetop control in western Baker County and in Pine Valley. Overall it is well received. A typical comment they hear is "It's about time we are doing something about these weeds". Their cost-share program continues to be very successful. The county weed control program pays 50% and landowners pays the other 50%. Total budget of the cost share program is \$35,000. Total on-the-ground weed control effort utilizing cost share and other sources in fiscal year 03-04 to date (estimate): \$130,000+. They added a grass seed program last fall to address rehabilitation needs. Participants in cost-share programs were eligible for free grass seed for up to 50 lbs. Total of 950 lbs seed for 28 participants. Baker County Weed Control Program believes in demo plots. Rabbit brush plots on Pocahontas - there were 20 treatments, 5 herbicides. Grass seed trials in Burnt River - 12 species, 7 locations in Upper Burnt River, an ongoing project on its 3rd year. Whitetop plots in 3 locations - Baker City Airport, Unity and Keating. They primarily focus on the big three weeds: spotted knapweed, whitetop, and rush skeletonweed. They are on the increase. All three are "wake-up weeds"... particularly whitetop. The program still does not have viable biocontrol options for these species. All three can be controlled but require diligence using a multi-year strategy. Escort does not seem to be effective and has variable results. Telar at 1 oz per acre is working. Plateau (imazapic) works very well but has recently been pulled from the market and is only available to government agencies. Mid-November is not too late to apply Telar. Fall offers a reasonable alternative to spring application. Baker County's frustrations with rush skeletonweed (RSW) - Method of dissemination, detection and monitoring is also difficult. Treatment methods are mostly ineffective. RSW has the potential to be a crop weed in Baker County. The primary dispersion/dissemination mechanism for RSW is wind. In the Snake River Canyon country, wind thermals are a daily, if not hourly occurrence.

These dandelion-like seeds are capable of moving miles away from the mother plant. Detection Frustrations: RSW has natural “camouflage” to limit detection during the growing season. From a distance RSW can easily be mistaken for bluebunch wheatgrass or other bunchgrasses. The steep, inaccessible terrain in many areas of the canyon limits or restricts access for survey and monitoring. RSW is readily grazed by livestock until late summer, further limiting detection. Grazing can increase the rate of root formation and re-sprouting of “daughter” plants. Ineffective Treatment of RSW: The scattered effect brought about by wind-blown seed requires backpack or other small-scale application methods over large tracts of land. They are finding that broadcast treatments work very well. The chemical options for effective control are very limited, and even those herbicides can be ineffectual. Ineffective Treatment of RSW: On public lands, they are further restricted (beyond label restrictions) by the types and amount of herbicide and surfactants they can apply in a given year. There are no effective biocontrol on RSW to date. On less productive sites, mites and rust can limit seed production, but do not reduce plant densities. Baker County’s concerns with spotted knapweed: Many of the same areas of Baker County infestations look a lot like Montana. It is spreading into Big Game winter range. It loves irrigation systems. It likes to grow among open pine stands and people like pine trees. In dry years, knapweeds put down deep root systems that sustain the plant through drought. In wet years (like this year), new seedlings and plants are found everywhere. Also in wet years, the plants are more robust and vigorous perfect for producing thousands of seeds per plant. Additional Weed: myrtle spurge is upcoming and spreading on rangeland area in Baker County.

Jim Harris noted in perspective that about half of the people present, mostly staff, have been around since the weed board formation going on 20 years. The first big project the board took on was to survey eastern Oregon for rush skeleton weed, they started throwing some money out but what they discovered in very short order was, that it was wide spread. Now we continue to find it and are becoming an increasing problem. If somebody let’s it go on agricultural ground, it will become a problem. There was a field in Douglas County in the late 1980’s that was abandoned because of rush skeletonweed. Most farmers are well aware of skeletonweed and are keeping it in check overall.

Arnie Grammon noted that the fall treatment of RSW is the most effective.

Gary Page - Malheur County

Gary thanked the OSWB for coming to eastern Oregon.

Quick Facts: Malheur County is the second largest county in Oregon; 9926sq/mi., roughly 6.5 million acres. 155miles long X 65 miles wide. Malheur is about 10% of the total landmass of the state and about .09% of the total state population. Assessed value per acre is about \$190 compared to Marion County at \$17,340. 78% federal ownership & nearly 15% DSL.

Yellow nutsedge: 35% of the onions consumed in the US are grown in Malheur County and the lower Snake River Valley. Yellow nutsedge has become a serious threat to onion production, reducing the yield by 50% or more in infested fields.

Weed Control History = County declared a weed district in 1940. In 1997 Reestablishment of the Malheur County Weed Advisory Board (MCWAB). Malheur County Weed program has involved over eighty private landowners per year since 1997.

Significant reductions of several MCWAB target species. The target species are Russian, diffuse, spotted knapweeds, leafy spurge, yellow starthistle, rush skeletonweed, and jointed goatgrass. Malheur County WP&MA was loosely formed in 1997 by Malheur County Weed Advisory Board. It was formally organized in 2004. Every relevant government agency within the WP&MA is involved, as well as a number of major landowners. The main emphasis will continue to be public awareness and education. Jordan Valley Cooperative Weed Management Area: over half of the memberships are private landowner. Covers the western half of Owyhee County Idaho, and the southern half of Malheur County, approximately 4 million acres. Initial target has been the

proliferating leafy spurge invasion, but perennial pepperweed and Russian knapweed are also concerns. Juntura Weed Management Area has high elevation native meadow, hay & pasture production. Interest has been shown by a number of local landowners and agencies. Two major concerns in this area are perennial pepperweed and hemp dogbane.

Rush skeletonweed = Approximately 125,000 gross acres involved. Beginning to infest production of agricultural land. The expansion to new areas continues.

Rush skeletonweed treatments in 2003- 54 sites were treated and in 2004 - 287 sites treated.

Mapping & Survey: Annually surveying and mapping about 50,000 acres.

A significant portion by volunteer workers, and WMA members. A number of private landowners borrow GPS units from the Malheur WPMA for use on their properties.

Gary Brown – USDA-APHIS

A primary role of USDA-APHIS is in support and implementation of biocontrol efforts. APHIS is the government agency that is responsible for keeping out foreign pest and diseases. They work closely with ODA and several county weed departments. In 1993, APHIS was working on leafy spurge, spotted knapweed and purple loosestrife. In 1997 APHIS developed a process of canvassing cooperators. They develop a list of top 10 weeds and take the top 3 and get funding from ARS to get biocontrol agents. The 1st list included saltcedar, yellow starthistle, dalmation toadflax and Russian thistle - as a result of that there have been reduced sights of infestation. APHIS facilitates biocontrol collection and spread them to cooperators or other states. For saltcedar biocontrol, a very good weevil was found, but APHIS is having conflicts with Fish and Wildlife regarding an endangered bird species. An experimental site is being monitored to collect data on how the agent is affecting the control on saltcedar and the nesting birds. APHIS feels that they have enough information that this agent will not remove all the Saltcedar and has no effect to the nesting birds. APHIS proposed to monitor the site for several years until Fish and Wildlife is satisfied with the data. Russian knapweed: there are some insects that were released in the open for the first time this year in Wyoming.

In 2000, APHIS updated the list and started working on whitetop, hoary cress, and Scotch thistle. There is reorganization going on APHIS headquarters since the split with Homeland Security. In the future, APHIS hopes to get funding for more research on additional biocontrol agents. To facilitate biocontrol, Gary Brown cooperates with ODA and counties in Oregon to move around the insects.

Note: USFS was invited to give an update but was unavailable.

September 24, 2004

Meeting Overview

“POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST”

Bill Hansell reviewed the agenda and read the Conflict of Interest Statement to those present as follows: “As Chairman of the Oregon State Weed Board, I make the following statement on behalf of the entire Board. All members of the Board agree if there is an item the Board is taking action on which there is an actual or potential conflict of interest to that member, such members will abstain from voting on such action. When a member believes there is a potential conflict of interest, said member shall indicate this to the Chairman and will be officially recorded in the meeting minutes. Actual or potential conflict of interest is defined by State Law as “any means of action or any decision or recommendation by a person acting in a capacity as a public official, the effect of which will or could be to the private pecuniary benefit or detriment of the person or the person’s relative, or a business with which the person or the person’s relative is associated.” This statement is read and entered into minutes of the State Weed Board on September 24, 2004.

Bill Hansell read a draft of a Public Comment During Grant Award Meetings to those present as follows: "To ensure the fairness of all applicants involved in the grant award process, the Oregon State Weed Board has adopted the following policy guidelines:

* During the grant award discussion the public present at the meeting shall not address the board unless board members specifically ask for input, comment or clarification of a particular grant item.

* It is not appropriate for the public to lobby the board for grants during breaks and other informal interactions with the board.

* ODA staff is present to provide input to the board on information that was used in making a particular grant recommendation. The discussion between staff and the board is intended to assist the board in making an informed decision as to fund or not to fund a particular grant.

* As outlined in the Public Meetings Law ORS 192.610 to 192.690 during each State Weed Board meeting, there will be time on the agenda for public comment.

The intent of this policy is to ensure that all applicants have an equal opportunity for their grant to be funded and that one applicant does not have an advantage over another because they are present at the Oregon State Weed Board meeting and may have the ability to lobby for their grant, for this reason the board would appreciate applicants and the public to be respectful of this policy and that not attempt to lobby the board members."

Discussion:

Ken Bare noted that this policy indicates that the public might not be able to step forward and express their concern about their grant and could be intimidated.

Patti Milne – Part of the process when a grant is submitted is to have all the information necessary for a decision to be made. If not and others do, then someone can come and lobby and say they forgot to include and had they added this and that and phrase it differently, they would have been successful. Then the board can get into the area that it could be an unfair process because others maybe able to write it differently. During the grant award discussion, the board may ask for input or additional information or clarification, otherwise board members may not be addressed during the meeting.

Bill Hansell suggested to note this discussion, rewrite the policy and present again on the next meeting. Tim Butler suggested that the board make comments and return them to the staff. There was discussion on the 3rd bullet, about if ODA staff should be subject to the same policy as the rest of the public. Tim Butler clarified that it is essential to have field staff input on particular grants. Bill Hansell noted that field staff input is welcome as long as the questions are coming from the board. Patti Milne asked what is the procedure of the weed staff on giving the recommendation to the board. Tim answered that the weed staff review the grants collectively and discuss each grant. Bill Hansell closed the discussion by noting that further review and clarification of the language is necessary, and then it will be presented on the next meeting. Jim Harris moved to adopt the guideline. Patti Milne seconded. Ken Bare commented that we make corrections and then adopt it at a later date. Patti Milne commented that there is an agreement among the board that there should be a policy with the intent of discouraging lobbying but it should not be adopted now and changed again later. She suggested that for the purpose of this meeting and with the chairman's discretion, the intent is there is no lobbying. Jim Harris withdrew his motions and Patti Milne seconded the withdrawal and moved that for the intent of this meeting that there will be no lobbying and moved also that the policy be reworded and finalized for the next meeting to adopt. Motion carried –unanimously.

10th Cycle Noxious Weed Control Grant Review & Awarding

Grant Budget Update – Tim Butler, ODA

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|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total Budget for the 03-05 Biennium = | \$1,046,088.00 |
| Biennium to date allocation = | \$ 499,218.00 |
| Total remaining to allocate = | \$ 546,870.00 |
| Outstanding payments= | \$ 110,681.25 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Recommendation for allocation for the 10 th cycle = | \$ 173,989.00 |
| 10 th cycle requested total: 30 grants= | \$ 398,263.00 |
| Remaining to allocate after this cycle= | \$ 373,000.00 |

The Oregon State Weed Board decided the grant applications would be separated into four categories: Fund, Partial funding, Denied and to be reconsidered. (Reconsidered grants will be indicated and will follow the list of funded and denied grants)

2004-10-01 Yamhill SWCD/Trappist Abbey False Brome Control
Requested: \$14,125.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-02: Chemical Control of Dalmation Toadflax
Requested: \$4,320.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-03 Grant Mountain Blackberry Control
Requested: \$30,000.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-04 Hogweed/Gorse Control 2005
Requested: \$1,400.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-05 Coos County Butterfly Bush
Requested: \$25,960.00 – Partial funding of \$21,000.00

2004-10-06 Burnt River Fall Weed Management
Requested: \$15,113.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-07 Boardman Conservation Area & Research Natural Areas
Requested: \$18,260.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-08 Upper Crooked River Weeds, Fall 2004
Requested: \$24,522.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-09 Yellow Starthistle in Lower Willow Creek
Requested: \$10,695.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-10 Kingston Prairie Oak Savanna Restoration
Requested: \$21,000.00- Denied funding

2004-10-11 Clatsop Knotweed Site Restoration
Requested: \$2,829.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-12 Riparian Restoration, Maintenance, Monitoring and Education
Requested: \$25,000.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-13 Dalmatian Toadflax of Jefferson County
Requested: \$5,000.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-14: Portuguese Broom Control
Requested: \$10,000.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-15 Gorse Control
Requested: \$10,000.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-16 Bear Creek Weeds Fall 2004
Requested: \$28,205.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-17 Lower Crooked River Weeds, Fall 2004
Requested: \$12,167.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-18: Jefferson County Russian Knapweed
Requested: \$10,000.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-19 Lower Burnt River Weed Control
Requested: \$25,000.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-20 Yellow Starthistle in Lower Willow Creek
Requested: \$7,342.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-21 Long Creek/Fox “A&T” Weeds
Requested: \$4,825.00 – Denied funding

2004-10-22 Spotted Knapweed-Baker County 2004
Requested: \$12,200.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-23 Homestead Weed Survey and Control
Requested: \$5,000.00 – Fund in full

2004-10-24 Tri-county Leafy Spurge Control and Survey

Requested: \$20,000.00 – Fund in full
2004-10-25 Tri-county CWMA Myrtle Spurge Survey and Control
Requested: \$6,600.00 – Fund in full
2004-10-26 Fossil Elementary School Playground Re-seeding
Requested: \$2,500.00 – Denied funding
2004-10-27: Weed Eradication-B/G Resources Easement
Requested: \$20,000.00 – Denied funding
2004-10-28 Wallowa Union Railroad Weed Control
Requested: \$5,000.00 – Denied funding
2004-10-29: Silver Creek Watershed Invasive Mow-Down
Requested: \$16,200.00 – Fund in full
2004-10-30 Grande Ronde Weed Control and Cost-Share
Requested: \$5,000.00 – Denied funding

Reconsidered Grants:

2004-10-02 Chemical Control of Dalmatian Toadflax – comment from the board that it is difficult for landowners to control the weeds on their own and weed control should be encouraged. Staff noted that one landowner treating their area among a large infestation around them would not have a significant impact in their property. This project is not recommended for funding.

2004-10-07 Boardman Conservation Area and Natural Research Area – the review committee recommended not to fund. Biocontrol agents are already present in the area. Low priority project due to limited availability of funds this grant cycle. This project is not recommended for funding.

2004-10-08 Upper Crooked River Weeds, Fall 2004 – this project treats primarily the upper watershed that allows for good protection. There have new cooperators participating in the project and has good matching funds, therefore recommended for full funding. The board decided to fund but will monitor closely.

2004-10-09 Yellow Starthistle in Lower Willow Creek– this project was not recommended because biocontrol agents are established in the area. Lower priority weeds for the area. Restoration and management plan needs to be comprehensive. Just spraying weeds will not rehabilitate this area. Board recommended the county to redo the proposal with better restoration plan and resubmit in future grant cycle. Not funded at this time.

2004-10-17 Lower Crooked River Weeds, Fall 2004 – this project was recommended by the review committee to deny funding due to limited availability of funds. Treatment is better made in the upper portion of the watershed. The board sees it as a good overall project and decided to fund after further consultation with the ODA staff. The board also asked that this project be monitored.

2004-10-19 Lower Burnt River Weeds, Fall 2004 – recommendation is denied funding due to the several listed target weeds are not known to be present in the project area. Low probability of success. No coordinator in the area to oversee the project and it is at the lower end of watershed. Not a comprehensive project and needs re-seeding for restoration.

2004-10-28 Wallowa Union Railroad Weed Control – the review committee viewed this project as low priority and believed that this project is primarily a vegetation management project. The board reconsidered but after some discussion agreed that it is a lower priority project this grant cycle therefore not to fund.

2004-10-30 Grande Ronde Weed Control and Cost-Share – the review committee had originally recommended this project not to be funded. Hawkweed is the highest priority and will be treated by other funding sources. Placed in lower priority category this grant cycle due to limited

availability of funds. The board overturned the recommendation and stated that it is a good project and has good cost-sharing portion and the weeds are mostly A & T weeds.

Motion to approve the total amount allocated for funded projects to \$191,156.00.

Motion carried unanimously

Jim Harris noted that there is an Environmental Impact Statement draft from USFS that is circulating at this time and it does not have a component that has a strong suggestion for use of 2,4-D, it is suggested that the OSWB might write a letter that would encourage the Forest Service to actively seek a preferred alternative that includes 2,4-D.

Jim Harris moved that a letter be drafted from the OSWB to US Forest Service encouraging the use of 2,4-D as a primary preferred alternative use for noxious weed control on Forest Service grounds.

Motion carried - unanimously

Public comment:

No public comment

Next Meeting and Location:

The next meeting will be held on February 2005 in Salem, exact date TBA.

It has been discussed that the OSWB meeting in February coincides with the Invasive Species Council meeting.

Meeting Adjourned