

Oregon State Weed Board

Minutes

September 6 - 7, 2007

Florence, Oregon

ATTENDANCE:

Weed Board Members Present

Patti Milne Don Richards
Bill Hansell, (Chairman) Jim Harris (Vice-chair)
Jerry Erstrom

Others

Tim Butler, ODA Justin Stevenson, USDA-APHIS
Jo Davis, ODA Dan Sherwin, Deschutes County
Bonnie Rasmussen, ODA Greg Wynans, Tri-County CWMA
Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA Jeff Jones, Amythyst Enterprises
Tom Forney, ODA Mark Systema, PSU, Centers for Lakes & Reservoirs
Eric Coombs, ODA Ken French, ODA
Shannon Brubaker, ODA Dave Langland, ODA
Jim Gores, USF&W

September 6, 2007

Bill Hansell (OSWB-Chair) called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Approval of Feb 15 - 16, 2007 Meeting Minutes:

Don Richards would like to add the statement under "Discussion of the Weed List" Butterfly Bush listing, "plants in production must have flower heads removed prior to going to seed". Motioned accepted and carries to add statement.

Tim Butler, ODA - 2007 Oregon State Legislature and Program Update:

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) requested the Oregon State Legislature for additional lottery funds for OSWB grant program and received 1.2 million. There is \$1million increase in OSWB grant program and \$200,000 for the Program that included the grant analyst position. To date, the Noxious Weed Control Program did 453 on-the-ground treatments, 69 biocontrol monitoring, 90 treatment monitoring, 47 surveys, 139 bio-releases and 72 education and outreach presentations to various groups. Project highlights for this season includes: Paterson's curse control project in Douglas County continues it's successful control efforts in 2007. Linn County Paterson's curse site has been monitored and spot-sprayed this year. Stateman's Journal published an article regarding the infestation of tansy ragwort on state property in Marion County. ODA have received countless calls regarding the tansy problem. ODA is working with Marion County Weed Control Program, Dept of Corrections and DAS for a sound management plan for this site. Scotch broom cost Oregon over \$47 million a year. A seed beetle that shows promising results has been widely released in the western part of the state. ODA collected these beetles and mailed them to cooperators for release. More releases are expected in the future. Toadflax stem weevils also shows dramatic damage on the plants this year. One site in Dufur, Oregon has been closely monitored and before and after photos has been taken. In 2007, the Forage and Hay Certification Program inspected 15,000 acres. Twenty-two growers participated. Fields in Benton, Malheur, Marion, Morrow, Umatilla, Deschutes, Jefferson, Klamath, Linn, Union,

Washington and Polk counties has been certified weed-free. A list of participating growers is available on the ODA web site www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/weedfreeforageprogram or upon request. ODA staff participated in an education and outreach efforts at the Oregon State Fair. Capital Press sponsored the booth for ODA to set up. Books and DVDs were raffled and water bottles and freesbies were given out. ODA staffs were available to answer noxious weed questions from the public. ODA received a grant from USDA APHIS to create a weed ID field guide. Western US Invasive Plant EDRR Weed ID Guide booklet will be available to cooperators later this year. The guidebook shows colored pictures, description, impacts, biocontrol, and mapped distribution of a list of invasive plants in western US.

Shannon Brubaker, ODA - Grant Monitoring Overview:

Shannon presented the project monitoring she completed in 2007. She visited project sites and met with grantees to discuss the progress of their projects and their areas of concern. She collected photos and data that will be used for reporting in the future. The following are the projects that were monitored:

- Trout Creek Whitetop Management: Project of Jefferson County funded for \$19,800.
- Lonerock/Thirtymile Integrated Weed Management Area: Project of Gilliam County funded for \$25,000.
- Hay Creek/Scott Canyon Integrated Weed Management Area: Project of Gilliam County funded for \$10,224.
- Common Bugloss Phase II: Project of Wallowa County funded for \$9,900.
- Cow Creek Knotweed Control: Project of Tri-County CWMA funded for \$14,500.
- South Fork Malheur River Perennial Pepperweed: Project of Harney County funded for \$ 11,557.
- Malheur River Riparian Weed Control Project: Project of Juntura Weed Management Area funded for \$25,000.
- Burns-Hines Weed Project: Project of Harney County funded for \$5,115.
- Portuguese Broom Control: Project of Douglas SWCD funded for \$29,653.
- Woolly Distaff Thistle Control: Project by Douglas SWCD funded for \$25,017.
- Japanese Knotweed Control Phase II: Project by Douglas SWCD funded for \$20,005.
- JWA Starthistle Control: Project by Jacksonville Woodlands Association funded for \$4,300.
- Winchuck River Knotweed Eradication: Project by Curry SWCD funded for \$3,725.
- Floras Gorse Management: Project by Curry SWCD funded for \$15,972.
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Elk River blackberry stands show sign of the rust. Pustules are apparent and dead canes showing obvious damage from the rest. For details on grant monitoring results, contact Shannon Brubaker.

Bob Barrett, ODA – New Noxious Weeds Detected in Klamath County:

Bob Barrett presented new found thistles in Klamath County. Taurian thistle *Onopodum tauricum* previously only reported in 2 states. Listed as an A rated weed in California and B rated in Colorado. Modoc County in California has had 2 sites, which they have been treating. Klamath County site is located on the eastern edge of Klamath Falls and covers 5 acres. About 250 mature plants found on site as well as a large number of seedlings. Taurian thistle has large purple flowers and winged stem. Plumeless thistle *Carduus acanthoides* was also found in Klamath County. Only other known location in Oregon is in Grant County. Plumeless thistle is an A rated weed in Oregon. Cutleaf teasel infestation was found within 1000 feet of the plumeless thistle site. Dried goat's rue leaves were found for sale in the Seattle area by federal inspectors. The source was traced to an organic herbal operation in Grant's Pass, Oregon. Goat's rue is a federally listed noxious weed. It is used by herbalists to stimulate milk lactation in human mothers and to lower blood sugar levels in diabetics. USDA-APHIS notified ODA of the goat's rue being raised in Grant's Pass. Bob Barrett met with USDA staffs Todd Willis and Gary Brown on site and the operator was issued a federal order for the removal of the goat's rue in his farm. The plants were a small part of the operator's business and were glad to comply.

Justin Stevenson, USDA-APHIS - Feral Swine in Oregon:

The average litter size is 4 to 8 pigs but as many as 10-13 has been recorded. Sow can produce 2 litters every 12 to 15 months. With adequate nutrition, a feral swine population can double in four months. Feral swine signs are watery wallow holes on the ground, rub marks on tree trunks, hog tracks, and uprooting of grasses and plant species. The feral swine distribution in the United State has grown dramatically since 1982. Feral swine created damage to endangered sea turtle population in the St Vincent National Wildlife Refuge in Florida. It is known to damage cemeteries. Oregon feral swine sightings are documented on 16 counties in Oregon. They are crossing the border to Oregon by deliberate releases at private lands for hunting purposes. Feral swine tested by the USDA-APHIS shows 30 major viral and bacterial diseases, 32 parasites and 13 zoonotic diseases. Using a digital scouting camera, USDA managed to witness on video the environmental damage of feral swine. Corral trappings and aerial shooting from a helicopter is being used to remove the feral swine. It is important to note that disturbance caused by feral swine can add to noxious weed movement and proliferation in our watersheds.

Mark Systma, Center for Lakes and Reservoirs, PSA – Aquatic Weed Update:

Oregon: In 1995, a suspicious plant was noted in Coos Bay. It was misidentified as *Phragmites australis* it was removed by the National Estuary Research Reserve System (NERRS) staff in 1996, 2003 and 2004. *S. alterniflora* was discovered in the area during a 2005 field survey by Portland State University. Vigorous eradication effort was initiated by NERRS staff, no plants detected in 2007. The Port of Siuslaw Spartina site was intentionally introduced into two plots during the 1970s. It grew to 1 acre by early 1990s. The last control work was completed in 1994 by ODA. It was deemed eradicated in 1999. Regrowth was found in 2005. The Spartina on Cox Island had a flush of seedlings following replacement of power-lines. The main focus for 2006-2007 is covering small patches in the power-line corridor. Estimated acres remaining on this site is 0.25. The Spartina Response Plan Program completed a new brochure following an ODA template and revised vegetative survey activities. British Columbia: British Columbia has infestation of *S. patens* in Port Moody and Comox Harbor, *S. anglica* in Frazer River Delta/Boundary Bay and *S. densiflora* in the Baynes Sound region. Surveys in April and August 2006 showed expanding population. Limited manual control completed in 2007. Washington: Puget Sound has 350 acres sites and Willapa Bay has 3,250 acres. Grays Harbor site has 10 acres treated in 2005/2006 and 2 acres remaining to treat in 2007. California: California's Spartina population is in its 4th year of control program. There are still 1200 0- 1500 acres remaining to treat. In 2007, they plan to spray 400-500 acres. Imazapyr proves 60-70% control overall. In early July treatment shows 80-95% of control and late September/October treatment shows 40-80% control. There is a hybrid spartina found 16 miles upriver along Petaluma River that is largely freshwater. *S. densiflora* occupies 94% of Humboldt Bay's remaining salt marsh. Currently there is no coordinated bay-wide eradication/control program in place. Herbicide use in this area is widely unpopular although repeated moving shows promise for small-scale control. Hydrilla in Pipe and Lucerne lakes in Washington was surveyed in 2006 and only 2 plants were found in Pipe Lake only. In 2007, over-wintering hydrilla was found in NE Wisconsin and NW Indiana. *Nymphoides peltata* was detected in Fanno Creek in Washington County as well as in Springfield, Sutherlin and Mohawk River in Lane County. Variable-leaf watermilfoil *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* is a new invader in the northwest. This species is very invasive in New England. Grass-leaved arrowhead *Sagittaria gramine* is native to eastern USA. Found problematic in Australia and New Zealand. Still being sold on the Internet. It is a Class B weed in Washington. Another possible of aquatic noxious weed is horn nut or bat nut *Trapa bicornis*. Portland State University, Center for Lakes & Reservoirs maintains a database <http://www.clr.pdx.edu/projects/edoutreach> that catalogs aquatic invasive species. The database provides education on identification, impacts and management and effective prevention efforts. An inventory such as this is necessary to avoid duplication of effort, to enhance exchange of readily available information, and to help educators, managers and outreach personnel evaluate gaps in existing outreach efforts. USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species database <http://nas.er.usgs.gov> also provides a repository for accurate and spatially referenced biogeographic accounts of nonindigenous aquatic species.

Glenn Miller, ODA – Lincoln County Weed Tour

Glenn Miller gave an overview of the past gorse projects in Lincoln County before the tour. Lincoln County’s infestations of gorse, knotweeds and clematis vitalba are the species being toured.

September 7, 2007

Potential Conflict of Interest Statement

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 is a potential conflict of interest to that member, such member will abstain from voting on such action. When a member believes there is a potential conflict of interest, said member shall indicate to the Chairman and will be officially recorded in the minutes. State Law defines potential conflict of interest 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 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 person's relative is associated."

In addition, to ensure that there is equal opportunity to all grant applicants, the Oregon State Weed Board has adopted the following guidelines:

- During grant award discussion, the public present at the meeting shall not address the Board unless specifically asked for input, comment or clarification on a particular item.
- 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 to fund or not fund a particular grant.
- The Board expects that the applicants present will refrain from lobbying for grants during breaks and other interactions with the members of the Board.

The intent of these guidelines is to help ensure that one applicant does not have an advantage over another because they are present at the meeting to lobby for their grant(s).

This statement is read and entered into the minutes of the Oregon State Weed Board on September 7, 2007.

Tim Butler, ODA – Grant Budget Update

Total Budget for the 2007-2009 Biennium	\$ 2,500,000.00
To date Biennial expenditures	\$ 0
Previous awards remaining to pay	\$ 165,000.00
Total remaining to allocate	\$ 2,335,000.00

GRANT AWARDS

Grant#	Project Title	Requested	Funded
2007-16-01	Upper South Fork John Day Watershed Whitetop Project	\$ 29,471.00	\$ 29,471.00
2007-16-02	False-Brome Control/Containment McDonald Forest	\$ 11,656.00	
2007-16-03	Jordan Valley Knapweed Knockout Project	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
2007-16-04	LBRWMA 3rd Cycle Weed Control and Restoration	\$ 25,083.00	\$ 25,083.00
2007-16-05	Cape Foulweather Acreage	\$ 3,000.00	
2007-16-06	Middle Fork False Brome Control Phase	\$ 57,608.00	
2007-16-07	Columbia Gorge Noxious Weed Control Project	\$ 21,342.00	
2007-16-08	Buford Park False Brome Control	\$ 22,800.00	\$ 22,800.00
2007-16-09	Rock and Gravel Pits – Wallowa County	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
2007-16-10	McNary Potholes Weed Control and Restoration	\$ 26,345.00	\$ 26,345.00
2007-16-11	Rush Skeletonweed in the Foster Fire Complex	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
2007-16-12	Portuguese Broom Control	\$ 46,546.00	\$ 42,111.00
2007-16-13	Yellow Starthistle – Central Douglas County	\$ 27,883.00	\$ 27,883.00
2007-16-14	Malheur Rush Skeletonweed Containment Project	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
2007-16-15	Riparian Invasive Control and Eradication	\$ 60,720.00	
2007-16-16	Goat Island Invasive Removal	\$ 20,790.00	\$ 20,790.00
2007-16-17	Second Oregon Invasive Weed Management Program	\$ 50,000.00	
2007-16-18	Coos Watershed Riparian Weed Control	\$ 29,570.00	\$ 29,570.00
2007-16-19	Medusahead Control/Restoration at Rimrock Ranch	\$ 23,403.00	
2007-16-20	North Fork Priority Weed Control	\$ 11,219.00	
2007-16-21	Wallowa Canyonlands Partnership Common Bugloss	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
2007-16-22	Hood River Watershed Knotweed Eradication	\$ 8,800.00	
2007-16-23	Wallowa Canyonlands Partnership Rush Skeletonweed	\$ 24,992.00	\$ 24,992.00
2007-16-24	Hogweed/Gorse Control 2008	\$ 1,722.00	\$ 1,722.00
2007-16-25	Lone Pine Yellow Flag Iris Project	\$ 5,183.00	\$ 5,183.00
2007-16-26	Dalmation Toadflax Control in Condon Canyon	\$ 8,745.00	\$ 8,745.00
2007-16-27	MCWCD False Brome Control Project Phase II	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
2007-16-28	Deschutes River Yellow Flag Iris	\$ 16,170.00	\$ 16,170.00
2007-16-29	Salem Audubon Nature Reserve Weed Eradication	\$ 8,750.00	
2007-16-30	Lower Willow Creek WMA Floodplain Restoration	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 16,500.00
2007-16-31	Starthistle Removal/Restoration Seeding	\$ 1,280.00	
2007-16-32	West Willamette Weed Control and Restoration	\$ 49,725.00	
2007-16-33	Yellow Flag Iris of Jefferson County	\$ 8,250.00	\$ 8,250.00
2007-16-34	Lincoln County Clematis Control	\$ 23,375.00	\$ 23,375.00
2007-16-35	Lincoln County Gorse Control	\$ 12,115.00	\$ 12,115.00
2007-16-36	Russian Knapweed Upper Crooked River Fall 07	\$ 43,040.00	
2007-16-37	Russian Knapweed Control S. Fork-Beaver Creek Fall 07	\$ 21,990.00	\$ 21,990.00
2007-16-38	Jointed Goatgrass & Mediterranean Sage Survey & Control	\$ 8,090.00	\$ 8,090.00
2007-16-39	Umatilla County Yellow Flag Iris Survey & Control	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 6,400.00
2007-16-40	Smith Lake Aquatic Weed Management Phase I	\$ 25,000.00	
2007-16-41	Baker County Spotted Knapweed Control – 2007	\$ 15,700.00	\$ 15,700.00
2007-16-42	Lake Creek Yellow Flag Iris Control	\$ 10,000.00	
2007-16-43	Floras Creek Gorse Management III	\$ 14,526.00	\$ 14,526.00
2007-16-44	Biological Control of Mediterranean Sage	\$ 17,339.99	
2007-16-45	Lincoln County French Broom Control	\$ 10,914.00	
2007-16-46	Haystack Creek Yellow Starthistle	\$ 9,700.00	\$ 9,700.00
TOTAL			\$ 526,011.00

The OSWB revisited the following grants and had further discussion and recommendations:

***2007-16-07: Columbia Gorge Noxious Weed Control Project -Do not fund**

***2007-16-26: Dalmation Toadflax Control in Condon Canyon - Fund**

***2007-16-32: West Willamette Weed Control and Restoration - Do not fund**

Moved that the total amount allocated on funded projects for the 16th cycle is \$526,011.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Discussion:

False-Brome Control/Containment McDonald Forest Project: Eric Coombs commented that in general, the OSWB invited the universities such as OSU to apply for grants and since universities projects are always geared to research, the OSWB hardly funds their proposals. The Board criteria should be rewritten accepting research components or does not invite universities at all. Tim Butler commented that a counsel with OWEB would be necessary to make changes to OSWB criteria. Bill Hansell commented that OSU could be informed to rewrite the grant where funding goes to control instead of outreach. Tom Forney commented that OSU is doing control on plots for research purposes only and not on the ground control. Tim Butler commented that if the applicant has a strong control element, it is eligible for funding. Jim Harris added that OSWB should stay with the current policy.

Tim also recommended to the Board to do the OISC joint meeting once every 2 years instead of every year. Moved and seconded

Tim Butler mentioned that Sandy Dedriech, a stalwart advocate of ivy and other invasive plant control, passed away recently and will be missed by those who knew her.

Action Items:

OSWB requested ODA staff to review aquatic weed list. Consult with Mark Systma about adding more aquatic weeds into our list. Moved and seconded

At the next meeting, the Board will review and rank OSWB "Project Criteria" listed on the grant application form instruction. It has been many years since it was initiated. There is flexibility within the criteria. Board requested to add this to the March agenda. Moved and seconded

Public comment: No public comment

Next Meeting and Location:

The next meeting will be in Salem on March 6-7, 2008

MEETING ADJOURNED