



**DOUGLAS COUNTY
COOPERATIVE WEED
MANAGEMENT AREA**

Douglas County Cooperative Weed Management Area Steering Committee Meeting

June 4th, 2019 at 3PM
Hearing Room at the Superior Court of Douglas County Building
203 S Rainier St, Waterville, WA 98858

SUMMARY OF MEETING

Meeting Objective(s):

- ❖ Steering committee members continue to develop a working relationship
- ❖ Continue discussion on initial priority species list
- ❖ Discuss the best way to communicate with landowners who are at risk of infestation of priority species

In attendance:

Name	Affiliation
Carolyn Kelly	South Douglas Conservation District
Tim Behne	Landowner
Paul Malone	Producer
Aaron Rosenblum	Foster Creek Conservation District
Mary Fee	WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
Melinda Hughes	Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Marc Straub	Douglas County Board of Commissioners
Amanda Ward	Foster Creek Conservation District
Corinna Hanson	The Nature Conservancy

- Partner/Committee Member Updates
 - Aaron Rosenblum: - Aaron announced that he has accepted a job offer, and his final day with Foster Creek CD (FCCD) will be on June 21st, 2019. He noted that FCCD is committed to continuing this effort after his departure. – Aaron updated the group on reports from landowners of priority species. There are now three confirmed locations of houndstongue, 2 confirmed locations of scotch thistle, and purple loosestrife was found in Foster Creek. – A grant application has been submitted to assist two landowners with Scotch thistle control.
 - Carolyn Kelly: - **A correction to the previous meeting summary:** The CRP waiver is granted by the FSA County Committee (not the Weed Management Task Force). – There is uncontrolled toadflax off of HYW 2 (state DOT ground) East of Waterville. Ray Willard is the vegetation management contact with DOT. – Round up resistant kochia and knapweed have been reported east of Douglas County – East Wenatchee

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made to ensure access to this meeting in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008.

City Code requires weed control for property owners adjacent to the Apple Loop Trail, but the code is vague for the rest of the city.

- Mary Fee: - The State Noxious Weed Board has funding for Class A eradication projects. – King County has resources for Spanish speaking outreach needs. - The State Noxious Weed Board has tons of resources that are available to our CWMA. – At the end of each biennium, the State Weed Board purchases herbicides which are available to folks in need. Requests can be sent to Mary.
- Melinda Hughes: Landowners in SAFE are conducting weed control, mostly for mustards, kochia and toadflax.
- Paul Malone: Just released biological controls for toadflax.
- Tim Behne: Controlling weeds in CRP, toadflax is the main culprit. Biocontrols are part of this effort.
- Corinna Hanson: - Update to ongoing restoration project: currently controlling for Russian thistle, prickly lettuce and cheatgrass. Hoping to seed this fall. – TNC has a cheatgrass biocontrol and Esplanade pilot project ongoing with monitoring slated for 5 years. Initial monitoring shows that Esplanade was not effective. Corinna will keep the group updated with results.
- Review Priority Weed Species:
 - Several species were added to the priority species list. No previous species were moved to a different category.
 - Aaron noted that it will be an ongoing effort during completion of the comprehensive plan. Following that, the list should be updated annually.
 - A request was made to discuss at a later date whether or not bulbous bluegrass should be on the list.
 - The current list is as follows:

Priority Weed Species

Priority Group #1

- Ventenata (*Ventenata dubia*)
- Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)
- Hoary alyssum (*Berteroa incana*)
- Black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*)
- English ivy (*Hedera helix* 'Baltica', 'Pittsburgh', and 'Star'; *Hedera hibernica* 'Hibernica')
- Spurge Flax (*Thymelaea passerina*)
- Common bugloss (*Anchusa officinalis*)
- Annual Bugloss (*Anchusa arvensis*)
- Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia virgata*)
- Tansy Ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*)
- Common crupina (*Crupina vulgaris*)
- Wild 4 O'clock (*Mirabilis nyctaginea*)

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- Common Reed grass (*Phragmites australis*)

Priority Group #2

- Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)
- Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
- Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*)
- Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*)
- Bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)

Priority Group #3

- cereal rye (*Secale cereale*)
- bulbous bluegrass (*Poa bulbosa*)
- Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- White top (*Lepidium draba*)
- Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
- Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)
- Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
- Russian knapweed (*Rhaponticum repens*)
- Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)
- Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)
- Kochia (*Bassia scoparia*)
- Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*)
- Japanese brome (*Bromus japonicus*)

- The group noted that cheatgrass and Japanese brome could be moved up in priority following a fire. Also, species that impact agricultural viability could be moved up in priority at the group's discretion.
- Priority Species "Watch Zones": The group discussed what was the appropriate scale to publically show watch zones that would display meaningful information, but still protect individual landowner privacy.
 - The group decided to use the Township and Range lines to designate watch zones. Therefore, if the priority species occurs within the T&R the entire T&R is a "Watch Zone". If the occurrence is near a boarder, then both T&Rs are included in the zone.
 - The group decided that an interactive web map application available on the CWMA webpage was the best way to share this information.
- Outreach
 - Landowners inside of watch zones will be sent EDRR postcards on an annual basis.
 - The group noted that continuous outreach would be key.

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- The group had a discussion about whether or not to put Aaron's herbicide recommendation spreadsheet up on the website. Ultimately, the group decided to put it up with a big disclaimer and a link to the PNW Weed Management Handbook Website (where information in the spreadsheet came from). The group agreed that Trade names should be removed from the spreadsheet before public display.
- The group noted that it will be important to recommend Integrated Pest Management techniques for priority species, not just herbicide recommendations.
- MOU: The group had a discussion about whether or not an MOU was actually needed. It was decided that the discussion would be tabled for 6 months and then re-examined.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Watch Zones will be created for known locations of priority species
- A web application will be developed to display watch zones
- Put "Toxic to Livestock" PDF on the resources web page
- Finish herbicide recommendation sheet for all priority species and put on webpage
- Put PDFs/link for fact sheets for all priority species on the web page

❖ The entirety of this meeting is open to public comment

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