



Benton County CWMA  
Full Group Meeting Minutes  
November 3, 2016  
9:30 am to 12 pm

**In attendance:** Heath Keirstead, Melissa Newman, Kristen Larson, Bessie Joyce, Cindy McCain, Jennifer Ward, America McMillin, Vern Holm, Carli Morgan (ODF), Glenn Miller, Peter Kenagy, Julia Waters

#### **9:30-9:40 Welcome & Introductions**

**9:40-9:50 New Roles:** Kristen will continue as co-chair, Melissa as coordinator, America as new co-chair, Heath as secretary.

**9:50-10:00 Presentation by Kristen Larson-** Overview of National Pesticide Information Center's Herbicide Properties Tool. See tool at <http://npic.orst.edu/HPT/>.

#### **10:00- 10:45 Action Team Reports & Discussion**

- **Education & Outreach – Let's Pull Together.** See presentation at <https://www.bentonswcd.org/assets/Lets-Pull-Together-2016.pdf>. For 2017, we were thinking about holding LPT in the May during Governor's invasive weed awareness week, and following up in the fall with a Let's Plant Together event at one site. City of Corvallis could possibly provide plant materials, or might be able to tap in to Marys Peak Stewardship Group funds depending on site chosen. By Feb. CWMA meeting, everyone should have an idea of if they want to host a weed pull location and what the planting site should be.
- **Education & Outreach - Workshops/Trainings** We discussed ideas for workshops to offer in 2017. Vern can teach grant writing-, how to think like the weed board, how to write an OSWB grant, what are the changing priorities. Vern and Glenn could cover grant writing for beginners and examples of what to do/not to do & lessons learned. Maybe Liz Redon would participate. It was suggested that we do an aquatic workshop every other year instead of every year. What other workshops could we offer so that we do offer one a year? Invasives in the urban environment could be a good topic for the February roundtable. Species could include: lesser celandine, pokeweed, giant hogweed, spotted spurge. Could offer to Master Gardeners, lawn maintenance groups. Another idea: offer a workshop on calibrating backpack sprayer with Marvin Gilmour and Glenn Miller- maybe in April? Is there anyone at OSU Extension who can teach it? Maybe Colton Bond from NPIC plus Glenn Miller? Talk about containerized herbicide for large scale applications? Would be a good talk for contractors, big farms. A pesticide applicator training will be held at OSU on January 18, 2017. Group would like to create an herbicide use talking points handout for use with the public- for the lay person, taking things from Colton's presentation, developing a

relationship and building trust with people. Other workshop/talk ideas: climate change and needs (Beth Meyers-Shenai?)

- **Species List** – There is Spanish broom on one known site in Wren on/by Lumos winery (organic) and one Spanish heath population in Alsea by the old Forestry Headquarters. yellow floating heart (YFH) in the Willamette River. There was one reported occurrence in Benton County- Horseshoe Lake in North Albany. This summer, YFH was found along the Willamette River, right after Wapato Cove. We pulled it. It hadn't come back in September. That is a species to watch out for. The unfortunate thing is that it is not easily treatable. Glyphosate not effective. Talking about other treatments to try. Working with landowners at Horseshoe Lake. Could removal of *Ludwigia* encourage growth of YFH? Unknown. Is YFH at Snagboat Bend? Marcie just found another site. A pretty big site near where the Old Long Tom dumps into the Willamette. It has made its way into the wetland. As much terrestrial as aquatic YFH at that site. Will take years to deal with.

Peter is finding on his farm that he can't control is the spotted spurge. Low growing, not necessarily economically damaging for a lot of crops. He probably started seeing it 10 years ago. Hard to keep from going to seed. Glenn put it on display at state fair, and it is taking western Oregon by storm. Great one for urban invasives talk. Not bad for a forester but does impact a lot of people. They see it all over the place. Very adaptable. Went for one spot on his farm to all his fields in 10 years.

- **Weed Board Research Discussion** - Glenn will be retiring in 9 months; they might not replace him. Put in a funding proposal to governor's office, but it didn't get into the governor's budget. PERS deficit- state agencies have to cough up \$800 million- could be looking at 12% cut across the budget. More money may go to grant program instead of weed program. Beth is only working for ODA one day a week through end of June. A bunch of WA state people at their meeting yesterday, they are fully funded, swimming in money for *Spartina* and different projects. They have a division of natural resources, every county has a weed district and mandatory weed control. Here, not enforced, voluntary system. If measure 97 passes, ODA would probably get the funding they were asking for. Tim Butler said that what will happen if 97 passes, it would take a lot of pressure off. Would make it a little easier. Talked about the proposition to offer matching funds \$50,000 Resistance from within the county for supporting weed control district. If there is a change in commissioners, is there closer cooperation possible? County Environmental Issues Advisory Committee (EIAC) meeting last week, in the meeting today, they will be talking about great ideas to explore as a committee, in the past, EIAC got started during herbicide wars, commissioners are highly reactive to bringing that kind of conversation (herbicides), county is sensitive. Lane County is going to re-allow use of herbicides. Cindy thinks there is an opportunity for EIAC to take the weed conversation in a new direction. Vern says in Yamhill County they just finished a two year project. Yamhill County PW hired a contractor to do spraying, and they vexed a lot of people. Commissioners started getting irate phone calls. So advisory committee put together to create BMPs for roadside vegetation. Lots of NPSO members and county employees on committee. #1

priority is safety, also important was native vegetation. Roads were mapped, some have unique native vegetation. SWCD and NPSO working with PW to do mapping. That document is available on Yamhill PW website. Great process, brought people together. PW director had to do it at the behest of the Commissioners. Include vectors in ag land. Next- come up with a way to diminish scorched earth. Erosion and weeds come in to bare grounds. Yamhill process got rolling with Kincaid's lupine.

BREAK

## Partner Updates

**Peter Kenagy-** *Ludwigia* he has been treating. But it has exponentially increased. He is not feeling optimistic.

**Glenn Miller-** has not initiated new projects because he is retiring soon. But his focus has been on aquatics this year. Did get on Columbia Slough and treated *Phragmites*, did get over to the coast and use zodiac to look for *Spartina*, *Ludwigia* projects- he has not treated himself. Long Tom- helping to get money from Army Corps, got \$10,000. It is fragmenting enormously- and growing exponentially. Very frustrating year for terrestrial weed control- hot and droughty year before, so all treatments from year before didn't take. All they had done was burn the tops off. So frustrating. Pretty common from Cascades east. Even using milestone on blackberries. If doing in summer time, they are not dying. Water availability for treating weeds is critical. October- only got three treatment days in the whole month because too wet. For the rest of the year, Glenn will be writing down everything he knows. No new projects, maybe some *Spartina* surveys. One of the things ODA can do is try to be a conduit for other funding avenues. Glenn is going to need to stay healthy and stay engaged with people.

**Carli Morgan- ODF-** Evelyn Hukari and Matt McBride before Carli. Evelyn is now state forest person and good resource for invasives. Started in April. Each month they have a district meeting and they do a weed of the month presentation. Try to make it relevant to what they could find on the forest. For all employees, including seasonal employees. Trying to educate staff on EDRR. Take photos and gps points, and report back to Evelyn and Carli. Have access to an inmate crew. They have them working every week. Their crew leader is an applicator and able to treat, spray, and do mechanical and chemical treatments. They treat hotspots. Glenn suggests educating on Portuguese broom, gorse, French, scotch broom. Full time position is timber sales. Contracts include equipment washing. Inspect off site. They can move on site from location to location. They try to identify weeds on that equipment haul route. So they have a few levels of checks. Carli will send the equipment washing contract language to Melissa to share with the group. They offer \$500 for contractor to wash equipment. They have one pond on their forest that is a hotspot. The most typical is scotch broom, Japanese knotweed, reed canarygrass. Scotch broom statewide on their lands. Knotweed just south of Hwy 20 near Burnt Woods.

**Vern Holm-** Announcements: OSWB app process is open, Dec 15 is deadline. Work with Glenn or Beth to have a viable proposal. Inter-Agency Noxious Weed Symposium in early

December. It is informative and fun and great for networking. Prior to that, will have statewide CWMA meeting show and tell to see what is happening. Willamette Aquatic Invasives Network. Their meeting is next Thursday in Salem. A great resource, a different range. Should be a good turnout. Anyone interested in aquatic invasives, even if not on the Willamette, it will be a good meeting.

**Jane Barth-MPSG** is spending time looking at boundary map and other areas to do restoration projects, have done a lot of work on Greasy Creek and Woods Creek, what are the connections. Spending time with Deanna Williams to explore the connections, allow work to be done. Meet 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month. They are trying to think creatively, how to work on different properties then they have traditionally worked on.

**Jennifer Ward**- has a problem she needs our help with. 2011-2012- got stewardship money to work on false brome. They have made a difference, more treatment needed but not as big. 3 acre meadow restoration they have been working on for 3 years. Tall Oat grass main invasive. Have burned it, broadcast spray, follow-up spot spray. Have replanted with native species, shrubs that need watering. Shrubs are doing great, but the whole acre is covered in oxeye daisy. The city meadow, old Peak meadow, is about ¼ mile to Pioneer Butte meadow on the Siuslaw, which was planning restoration work in June. Now they have done a lot of work, we are scratching our heads about Old Peak. Oxeye was there before, but not in substantial amounts. Pioneer Butte and Old Peak both have tons of oxeye daisy. One has had a lot of work, one has not. Cindy says oxeye is popping up on Marys Peak. Hot dry summers favor oxeye daisy acc. to Glenn. Glenn knows no manual way to deal with it, just need to do herbicide applications. Over time, want to eradicate to extent possible. Heath suggested contacting Jarrod Jebousek or Molly Monroe. Glenn says you fill weed sticks from Schmucker Manufacturing. You fill the stem with herbicide. Try Garlon application now. See if that works. Garlon has no residual effects, so try fall Garlon app, or springtime (May-early June) weed wiping. If we have breaks in the weather, Glenn can go up there with you.

**Cindy McCain- AFRANA**- they have another pull event coordinated with Steve Cook's class, they are making progress on broom along Marys Peak rd. Shining geranium, digitalis. Geranium wasn't there, now is everywhere. It was new and depressing. Oxeye daisy up at the top. Marty completed the EA work he needed to do to use herbicides up on the Peak. Now the restoration logging has opened up a lot of new area. A lot of concern.

**Rebecca with Greenbelt Land Trust**- they were happy to be involved with Let's Pull Together. She helped with GLT logistics side of it. They were able to combine both trail work and pulling invasives. Her role at GLT is membership and outreach coordinator. She can take on the E&O action team role from Jessica. Herbicide use talking points for the public. Targeted herbicide spraying, they have members concerned about herbicide use. Taking Colton's talk and distilling it down. Most important point- is developing a relationship with the people concerned. Go and hand pull with them, they can figure out that you are trustworthy.

**Bessie Joyce with CWC**- they don't have a big invasives weed program running right now but she is interested in scoping that and developing over next few years. Need to find funding for

shining geranium, yellow flag iris and false brome. Those aren't weeds that OSWB wants to fund right now. Glenn will help Bessie formulate a grant. If it is not huge, about \$5000, they will have a good chance. They have been funding some of those on the coast. What is reasonably sized? Glenn will help figure that out. CWC hasn't been funded recently. Aaron Duzik has been doing some work on yellow flag iris. Mike at Yamhill has been doing a lot of Yellow flag iris work. OSWB has funded in Columbia County, etc., but just keep it pretty small. Also looking at *Ludwigia* projects along the mainstem. Hoping to work with partners. Very concerning to dump chemicals and not see results. Her projects would be in side channels.

**Kristen Larson with LWC**- part Polk and Benton Counties. Knotweed on Little Luckiamute, and Luckiamute, a couple landowners on upper portion of Luckiamute that refuse to accept treatments. They decided to cut this year to minimize downstream impacts, trying to build relationships, keep holding out hope for biocontrol down the road. Vern says there is some cautious optimism for biocontrol options, maybe 2 years out? They treat knotweed for 2-3 years, then plant in. Other work associated with preparation for planting. Manmade slough at mouth of Luckiamute with *Ludwigia*. Parks treating, it is far worse than expected, so far it is only in the mouth.

**Melissa Newman with BSWCD** – We apply for OSWB grants on behalf of the CWMA. They have been treating *Ludwigia* at Collins Bay, and 3 years of treatment at Horseshoe Lake on YFH. They need to look at different options for more effective YFH treatment. Also, they do E&O events – workshops on the river, partner with Willamette Riverkeeper(WRK), use WRK canoes. They get a mix of recreationists, students and practitioners in attendance. Some events with Northwest Youth Corps. This year they will be planting wapato and putting out seed at some of the sites where removal has occurred. Wapato resists glyphosate applications. Glenn asked what the plans are for the next OSWB grant application. They plan to treat Wapato Cove, continue project, request extension to treat Wapato Cove.

12:00- meeting ended