



Benton County CWMA Meeting - Agenda

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Location: [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Office Adair Village](#)

In Attendance: Amy Kaiser (NRCS), Emily Day (City of Albany), Amanda Reinholtz (Long Tom WC), Colin Tierney (ODFW), Abby Colehour (Long Tom WC), Aaron Duzik (Green Ridge Resources), Heidi Christensen (BLM), Chris Salazar (Calapooia WC), Glenn Miller (ODA), Matt Mellenthin (IRM, CWC, WSTC, WAIN) Cynthia McCain (AFRANA, Mary's Peak Alliance), Peter Kenagy (Farm Bureau), Kathleen Westly (Marys River WC), Jennifer Killian (City of Corvallis P&R), America McMillin (City of Corvallis P&R), Joe Deardoff (City of Albany), Patrick Hayden (ODFW), Laura Brown (Benton SWCD), Bruce Kelpsas (retired from Ag Chem industry)

Oblong Spurge (*Euphorbia oblongata*) (Laura Brown)

ODA A-listed noxious weed. There has been the first confirmed sightings of oblong spurge in Corvallis in ~3 locations in northwest Corvallis of 53rd street. Defining characteristics of oblong spurge – showy perennial herb with 20 stems with bright yellow green bracts, produces a bunch of seed. Control methods include manual, digging (get the entire root), chemicals: Imazapyr and Garlon. This is a multi-year approach and mowing is not recommended. No Biological control. Benton SWCD will write a OSWB grant through the CWMA to treat existing sites and to do outreach in surrounding neighborhoods. Possible forms of outreach include neighborhood newsletters (Grand Oaks has this) informing home owners of this weed and why it's important to control it. Include information on avoiding the sap that is a skin irritant and give homeowners a good alternative to replace oblong spurge with. Inform homeowners that eradication may be a multi-year effort. Social media blasts through the City of Corvallis and other outlets, potentially a neighborhood meeting or two. Look for a FAQ sheet through King County.

Yellow Floating Heart (*Nymphoides peltata*) (Glenn Miller)

This is an ODA A-listed noxious weed. Yellow floating heart creates a dense canopy on the water surface, reducing water circulation creating anaerobic conditions. This was an escaped plant from the aquatic plant trade. Still relatively rare to find in Oregon. In Southern Oregon they are treating one lake in Jackson County and seven ponds in Douglas County. With two treatments of Imazapyr a year for four years there has been a 99% reduction. At Beaver Pond in the Umpqua NF they have treated twice a year for two years with success. At Dodson Slough in Lane County they used a new product called Procellacor with some success. They used the same product in central Oregon with a subsurface treatment which didn't have much control.

Products that have been used to control Yellow Floating Heart:
Glyphosate – didn't work, got a burn off but no control

Imazapyr – controls 80-90% at 1.5% concentration
Imazamox – see a control of 50-80%, at 32 oz per acre
Florpyrauxifen (Procellacor) – the verdict is still out, used at 0.12-0.24%

Italian Thistle (*Carduus pynoccephalus*) (Laura Brown)

This is an ODA B listed species. Found a bunch in downtown gravel parking lots in Corvallis. She contacted the City about the weeds and had little success. She created a scavenger hunt with volunteers and was pleased with the success and willingness of the volunteers to take a walk and pull weeds. She was thinking of programs to address some of these areas that have little care, along the lines of adopt a parking lot. Working with the Willamette Valley Regenerative Landscape Coalition who is looking at creating carbon sequestering landscapes at Central Park. They are interested in turning landscape areas in some of the downtown parking lots that are currently graveled into a carbon sequestering landscapes that are native and drought resistant.

Places in the downtown areas where weeds have been noticed are in the small landscape beds, parking lots, around trees, and parks. One option to bring awareness to what weeds are and what should be done to control them would be signs picturing and talking about a few weeds. Weed bag stations at trail heads. One example from BLM was mentioned that they have some bags that have pictures of weeds and a little bit of information about them. This would be something that hikers could take with them and pull some of the weeds.

Defining who is responsible for what areas. Is there a point person in the City who could be contacted to make the connection between the different agencies (county, City, ODOT, homeowners, business owners etc.) about weeds and the issues that they create, along with a control plan?

New Species List (Partner discussion)

- Hops –In Polk county there has been a noticeable increase in hops outside of farm areas. Don't know if it will be a problem in the future
- **Japanese....** Glen Miller mentioned that this weed creates dense thickets in Multnomah County
- Wild Caraway – similar to Wild Carrot, spreads rapidly.
- Yellow Archangel – site at the coast. Have done three treatments. A recommendation of Garlon
- *Ventenata dubia* – N. African Wire Grass – invasive weed that is having a huge impact on the Northern Great Basin. It invades healthy stands of bunch grasses and outcompetes everything for resources. Will outcompete medusa head.

Grant Opportunities (Partner discussion)

Heidi Christensen talked about the grants that The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has and integrated invasive plant and noxious weed management plan. This is a funding source that will be opened up in January 2020 for open enrollment through

July. This funding source is to help adjacent property owners to deal with noxious weeds near BLM land or issues that could directly impact BLM land. There are 10 generic funding announcements and a person can apply at any time. Every 30 days the applications will be reviewed and processed. In the application please put the BLM contact person on the grant so it goes to the right person and can be processed faster. This program can be used for outreach, educations, preventative (boot brush, bicycle wash stations, dog brushing stations, weed id on trailheads, etc.) manual treatment, and planting. These grants have a three-year maximum period to spend the funds. For grants under \$50,000 the state office has authority to approve the grant, over that amount it goes to Washington D.C.

The Oregon Invasive Species Council has \$100,000 for education outreach. There information is on their website. This could possibly be used to fund some of the C-Quester plantings for the City of Corvallis.

Glen Miller mentioned the ODA and OWEB grant cycle is ongoing. Pay attention to the fine print and be as accurate as you can be with your information.

CWMA versus Weed District (Partner discussion)

Laura Brown highlighted some differences between a weed district and CWMA

CWMA

- Crosses boundaries
- Raises awareness of invasive species
- EDRR (early detection rapid response) network
- Partners to share and leverage limited resources
- Help secure funding for invasive plant project
- No regulator authority
- Lacks a funding base

Weed District

- Enforcement of invasive management on public and private lands
- Enforcement of state weed laws
- Access to state funds and tax base
- No cost share program
- Preference for ODOT treatments

What would the benefits of the CWMA becoming a district? District provides funding and regulatory teeth for invasive species control.

Some of the history/recommendations from the group:

Get the county staff support prior to going after a weed district, without it the commissioners will not go forward with it. They may be reluctant to go after a tax base. A management area would need to be prioritized.

These districts need to be formed and sustained, which is difficult. To be able to sustain a weed district there has to be an impact on agricultural or forestry resources. There isn't anything like that in Benton County. Usually Soil and Water Conservation Districts lead the weed control in a county. Without a threat of significant economic impact, the weed district will fizzle out.

The Benton County CWMA voted for Benton SWCD to be designated the lead weed entity for the county. The vote was unanimous. This will open additional funding through OSWB for weed control in Benton County.

Partner Updates

Benton SWCD – found a new stand of yellow floating heart on the Willamette. Found oblong spurge in Corvallis. Still working on Ludwigia. Working to see how feasible it would be to mechanically remove Ludwigia. Including contractors, logistics, and environmental impact. Have all this information lined up and ready to go so cost can be compared. Create a decision frame-work, how to treat a site, have a long term plan for seven plus years down the road. Suggested to talk to Lauri Holts about a mechanical harvester. Creating a best management practices document.

City of Corvallis – introduced Jennifer Killian as the new Natural areas resource person, she is half time in this position along with urban forestry outreach.

City of Albany – spraying out 10 acres in a 40 acre site of night shade. Putting in plugs.

Mary's River Watershed – working on Knotweed, yellow archangel control aquatic and riparian.

AFRANA - CWMA helped AFRANA make contact with The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, who had kids come out and help pull weeds for the Let's Pull Together event at Marys Peak.

Matt Mellanthin – working with UC Davis and Dr. Grewell, who is looking into biocontrol's of Ludwigia as well as herbicide applications of pre and post emergent . Working with Western Aquatic Invasive Network for a grant for a project on the main stem.

ODA- Bio control coming in the spring for Japanese Knotweed, a bug that is attracted to plants when they are fresh and young. Looking for sites that a big and not going to be treated.

Canada thistle rust is moving forward this program is working in Colorado. This rust is a native rust. Looking for dense sites with some disturbance in the fall

Gorse thrips are almost ready- next summer? Already using in Hawaii and New Zealand. It applies pressure to gorse

Yellow star thistle new beetle is released

Garlic mustard- Canada released a weevil that is proving successful, Minnesota is working on releasing the weevil.

Garlon 3A is more effective on garlic mustard

Calapooia WC - Ludwigia control at Bowers Rock. This project is 14 acres started a year ago. Found a small population of Ludwigia at Pioneer Park but can't find it again a sand bar moved in perhaps it disrupted it. Freeway Lake has Ludwigia possible for a weed board grant, possible mechanical control site.

BLM - Timber sales pre and post harvest treatments and monitoring. They are in the process of getting their list of 4 chemicals with active ingredients up to 16 different products. This will make it easier to control weeds. Creating an annual treatment plan and pesticide use proposal.

ODFW – using mechanical control and getting outside and staying busy. Dealing with the usual suspects general spraying of weeds.

Green Ridge Resources – they found Ludwigia on the coast.

Long Tom WC – Abby is new to the position - working on private land management issues. Working on weed management at Snag Boat Bend, mapping weeds like knotweed, clematis, spotted knapweed, hops, thistles, tansy in the backwater sloughs. Amanda- Ludwigia 3 years treating entire length of the infestation- 2X per summer – major source – looking at a long term solution for funding. Finding parrots feathers coming into some of the places where they are treating Ludwigia.

NRCS – Early spring program for home owners –herb weed control Benton SWCD – ODA pest management opportunities – Bio and mechanical

Albany Parks - 2018 Japanese knotweed control with Imazopyr- ¼ care near site- small patches over 5 parks – volunteer ivy pull events along Willamette river

Next Meeting and Misc.

We decided that the CWMA would have a priority species for the year. One for aquatic –Yellow Floating Heart and one terrestrial species - Oblong spurge. This would help create a unified voice on outreach and education, as well as eradication. Both of these species are A-listed ODA Noxious Weeds, making them a high priority for removal. The CWMA voted unanimously for these two species to be the priority species for the year.

Next Meeting – sometime in March

Speaker for the next meeting?

- Someone who is successful on one of these priority species
- WIN – Willamette Aquatic Invasive Network Habitat Prioritization

-Andony Melathopoulos Assistant Professor - Pollinator Health Extension
melathoa@oregonstate.edu 541-452-3038. He is the pollinator expert at OSU and would be good to talk about pollinators and open areas.

List serve coordinator – send links once a month or so about what is relevant and interesting. This will be dependent on time for CWMA coordinator.

Had a brief email introduction from Troy Abercrombie of WIN

Meeting adjourned at 12:05