

**MINUTES
BENTON COUNTY
COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA
January 7, 2013**

Attendees: Evelyn Hukari – ODF; Holly Crosson-BSWCD; Jenny Ayotte-BSWCD; Molly Monroe-US Fish & Wildlife; Thomas Snyder-NRCS; Xan Augerot-MRWC; Laurie Starha-BC Public Works; Kristen Larson-Luckiamute Watershed Council; Claudia Ingham-Animal & Rangeland Sciences OSU; Glenn Miller- Or. Dept. of Ag; Seema Mangla-OSU College of Forestry; Jeff Baker-Greenbelt Land Trust; Maggie Livesay-OSU Extension Services; Peter Kenagy-Kenagy Family Farm; Steve Lilly-Greenbelt Land Trust; Crystal Durbecq-BSWCD; Tom Kaye-Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE); Heath Keirstead-BSWCD

EDRR – Glenn Miller

Glenn discussed the meeting the group had this past summer. The key is to define goals and projects and make sure that everyone is looking for noxious weeds and reporting in when spotted. Recommended that the reports should go to Heath and she will distribute to the correct person/agency for action. Heath would then input it into Weedmapper. It is important to have one reporting location. The point is, that for the EDRR system to succeed, it must be local, on the ground help with people and tools. The role of CWMA should result in action. One strategy would be to target certain plants from the ODA list. Could be more specific examples such as: coltsfoot; giant hogweed, hydrilla, star thistles; hawkweeds. CWMA would have avid gardeners or members of master gardeners stop at small, local nurseries and look for invasive being sold and report back. ODA does inspections but have limited staff and resources. This would be targeting problems at the source. Other plants that could be on the list include; yellow floating heart (which is found in Albany), French and Portuguese broom, **Gorse, Goatsrue (found in Portland), Knotweed, Policemen's helmet** (Five Rivers area), Spurge laurel (N. Corvallis and Finley Road), Italian Thistles, Giant Reed, Garlic mustard. Currently no Hogweed has been found in Benton County. Last thoughts, the biocontrol agents are working on some of the invasive species.

Education & Outreach – Maggie Livesay

The group met in the Fall to work on developing a logo and a consistent message for the CWMA. The top 3 logos were displayed and the group provided feedback. Maggie will take the comments back to the committee and will make a decision on which logo to pick. Heath spoke with ODA to seek funding opportunities. The idea is to develop a promotional message that the group would feel comfortable spreading the word. Three possible target groups: Public Landowners, Private Landowners, and Recreational Users. If there are other agencies/individuals that might be interested in participating in the Education & Outreach subcommittee, please let Heath know. Glenn stated that more information on control measures might be necessary. Possibly a **"One-Stop"** shopping or a one day seminar discussing different type of weeds and controls. There is a lot of misinformation being circulated. The OSU handbook is good but is more crop based. Glenn will run the idea back to ODA and see what they think. A good time would be March or early April for a seminar. Xan nominated Kathleen Westly (MRWC) as a new member of the E&O action team.

Landscape Level Strategy-Crystal Durbecq

The committee met in August. The focus was to create maximum communication with everyone in the group through mapping. Determine what agency was working where, what was being managed and how. Next steps would be to prioritize treatment areas. The group will need to solicit management information from all members of the CWMA and then put together a spreadsheet of the on the ground activities. What would be the next steps? Identify where more work needs to take place. A large gap is on private lands. Need to provide outreach to those landholders. Goal – Who is doing what and where; what are the gaps; end points site specific and weed spotter. Be able to look at the maps and make those determinations. Are we reinventing weedmapper by going this route? At the next committee meeting will discuss in more detail. We are missing the (mapping) technical expertise. Google Earth uses shape files, getting the data might be a challenge and staff time is limited.

BREAK

Operations

The subcommittee met twice, pulled together the group and gave it form. Also met with the County Board of Commissioners and provided information on the CWMA. Did not believe that the BOC is ready for a County Weed Board as of yet. There have been 20 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the CWMA signed as of today. Working on individual membership and how that would look, support staff, structure within the Committee, setting up steering committees and how they would interact, developing by-laws including officer appointment. Thinking the CWMA will meet twice a year to share information, provide updates and have speakers. Idea would be to meet in February and October. Heath is working on by-laws, Seema and Kristen have volunteered to be co-chairs, and Laurie has volunteered to be the secretary. There are 3 open positions. Peter Kenagy, and Maggie Livesay volunteered, Heath will nominate Henry Storch. List of individuals presented to the CWMA members for approval:

- Peter Kenagy
- Heath Keirstead
- Holly Crosson
- Laurie Starha, Secretary
- Seema Mangla, Co-Chair
- Maggie Livesay
- Henry Storch
- Kristen Larson, Co-Chair

Jenny moved to approve the list of individuals to be the steering committee, Claudia second the motion. Approved by all.

Funding Needs

Glenn mentioned that ODA might be able to fund some of the CWMA program. Currently, BSWCD is funding Heath to do the coordination. Group will need to discuss further who will pursue funding but this should be outlined in the bylaws.

Upcoming Events

Jenny, BSWCD – Working on riparian restoration project and invasive weed management for ivy and clematis control.

Claudia Ingham, Animal & Rangeland Sciences OSU – Working with farmers and ranchers to enhance wildlife through biodiversity. This provides opportunities for a salmon safe labeling.

Tom, IAE – Shared that IAE still has Willamette Valley Weed Guides available for a small cost. Working on establishing a plant material and seed cooperative group. Developing new habitat restoration projects with BC Parks. Promote - Eradication by mastication 2013 outdoor event.

Heath, BSWCD – Teen Weed Spotters in Monroe for spring 2013. Looking for on-the ground projects. Adult Volunteer Weed Spotters Training scheduled for May 18th need volunteers, course is 5 hours.

Maggie, OSU Extension – Have grant funding for invasive weed cards (booklet) with control options. Example might be **BMP's**. **Does the CWMA want to support the project?**

Holly, BSWCD – Discussed the aquatic weed outreach product that Mark Sytsma at Portland State University had an interest in potentially funding was an educational pamphlet on preventing the spread of aquatic plants in Oregon via the horticultural pathway of backyard water gardens. The audience would be master gardeners and others (landscape designers, nursery professionals, homeowners, etc).

Glenn, ODA – Three important areas of focus 1) Nursery Watchers 2) Gravel Pit Operation certification- Need to get this group on board. A weed survey would be a great grant opportunity to get this going. 3) Production Agriculture and the problem with transporting weed seed. Example is puncture vine spreading from field to field.

Adjourned at 12:08 p.m.