

Chelan County
Noxious Weed Control Board
Meeting Minutes June 10, 2015

Board Members

Dirk Veleke, Board Chair
Ken Bauer
Joe Grentz
James Johnson

NW Dept. Staff & Guests

Mike Mackey, NW Control, Coordinator
Jean Postlethwaite, Office Assistant

Open Meeting – Board Chair Dirk Veleke called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve minutes for the March 10, 2015 Board meeting. Joe moved and James seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Coordinator Report

1. Current Activity

Mark Long control is approximately 98% complete. As required by RCW, legal documents including a bill for treatment were sent to Mark and Vanessa Long. They agreed to pay for the treatment. Neighbors have also sprayed. All that remains is to mechanically remove weeds along the ditch banks.

Kim Reid on Hyacinth Rd. in Manson will require stepped up enforcement effort. The property hosts Whitetop, Poison hemlock, Canada thistle and knapweeds. Her control efforts are inconsistent and timing of the efforts is ineffective. We will send a Notice to Control and encourage her to mow or spray by a specific date. Contact will be made next winter.

Colville Confederated Tribes have sprayed MA8 and will spray again.

County-wide - Due to our limited resources this field season our focus for treatment is on large, more visible infestations. Five hundred thirty-six (536) Puncturevine Reminder letters have been sent. We sprayed Hoary alyssum and bugloss in the Entiat area, Rush skeletonweed needs to be sprayed along Hugo Rd. in Chelan and other locales and Houndstongue in the Purteman Gulch and elsewhere.

2. Grants status

Most of our grants expire June 30th. There is some carryover Title II and Knotweed money remaining. June 22nd we will apply for another \$30,000 for continued control of Common Crupina.

3. Common Crupina

Control activities at Moore Point were successful. Milestone was used to spray and land owners are pleased. There was an extra crew this year. During the rainy periods they were actively hand pulling weeds. We had 6 additional sprayers and were able to cover a much larger area. Plots were recorded and the footprint is significantly smaller.

4. Knotweed Control

Our initial 5 year period has been reached and new permission forms were mailed to property owners with new or existing cases of Knotweed. Terry Lillybridge and Tayna Russell are preparing their field schedule to visit

existing sites and determine the need for further treatment.

5. Employee status/Budget.

We have spent approximately 39 % of our budget. Surplus grant funds have been returned to the Department of Natural Resources. We do not plan to hire anyone to replace Kelley this year. I am preparing the 2016 preliminary budget which will meet our needs based on increased costs. The goal is a zero-based budget that will meet our basic needs throughout the year. That will require either an increase in our assessment of \$1 per parcel or some other funding mechanism.

6. Biocontrol report.

Dale Whaley has released a total of 34,400 insects in the control of Diffuse knapweed, Dalmation toadflax, Purple loosestrife and St. Johnswort. Our Department released insects on Forest Service-owned lands at Moore Point in an effort to eradicate the Scotch broom. Insects were released in the Lake Wenatchee/Plain area for Diffuse knapweed and 1,000 insects were released on Hwy. 97A to attack the St. Johnswort.

Roundtable Discussion

Hiring Plan for 2016 – We would like to hire 1-2 part-time employees. Our botanist Julie Sanderson can train them to identify weeds however they should be good with the public. Dirk suggested that Craig's list and word of mouth are the best sources of inquiries for employment.

Whitetop – Joe requested we follow-up with the Earl Burts 'junkyard property' now owned by ? Burnett. Mike will look into the status of noxious weed control on the property and respond to Joe.

Also about the status of the King Property in Monitor near Methodist Church and Joe Greutz property. Nothing has happened in 3 years.

FYI re Whitetop – Dirk reported Tordon doesn't work on Whitetop and is ineffective on all members of the Mustard family. Milestone and Dicamba work best.

Musk thistle in Colockum. Once Terry is finished spraying knotweed, we will resurvey DNR and F&W lands for Musk thistle. Mike will contact DNR and F&W to treat and require lessees to treat weeds on grazing lands.

Meeting Adjourned

Ken moved and Joe seconded the motion to close the meeting. Board Chair, Dirk Veleke adjourned the meeting at 7:20pm.

The next meeting will be **Sept. 8, 2015 at 6:30pm**