

Chelan County
Noxious Weed Control Board
Meeting Minutes December 12, 2017

Board Members

Fred Smith
Dirk Veleke – Vice Chair
Joe Greutz
Ken Bauer

NW Dept. Staff & Guests

Mike Mackey, NW Coordinator
Julie Sanderson – NW Field Supervisor
Jean Postlethwaite - Recorder
Hank Lewis – Dir. Community Dev.
Brigitte Ranne – Acting Invasive Species
Program Manager
U.S. Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
Nancy Redlin – Chelan County Roadside
Vegetation Manager

Open Meeting: Board Chair Fred Smith opened the meeting at 1:30pm

Action items

1. Ken Bauer moved and Joe Greutz seconded a motion to approve minutes of the September 12, 2017 meeting as presented.

Coordinator Report – Two guests were invited to give updates on topics of concern to the weed board:

1. Brigitte Ranne, US Forest Service. Brigitte reported that the USFS has completed a new EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) which will allow the use of a greater number of herbicides and for an early detection and rapid response anywhere on Forest Service owned land. They will continue to work closely with Chelan County Noxious Weed on new infestations on adjacent lands. The partnership effort on the Crupina Control project is continuing with an effort to secure additional grants of federal money with a nonfederal match. The Forest Service and the weed board in partnership with Chelan County, Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, Bureau of Land Management, Chelan County PUD, and WA State Department of Agriculture will be applying to NFWF (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation) Pulling Together Initiative

for noxious weed control funding up to \$50,000 requiring an In-kind match such as receiving herbicides from the State at no charge and weed work performed on properties such as the USFS, PUD, and Land Trust. Treatment on the Forest Service-owned lands is typically about 6,000 acres. Weeds along roadsides are a priority because of their spread onto adjacent private lands. The Forest has an insect biocontrol program and receives insects from local sources at lower cost.

2. Hank Lewis, Director of Community Development, described their program priorities and issues related to coordinating their priorities with those of the Noxious Weed Control Board. There is no "fill and grade" ordinance that requires prevention of nuisance and noxious weeds. All new applications for permits are routed to other County departments when necessary; if the action could result in the disturbance of land, the permit will be forwarded to the Noxious Weed Control Board with a request for comment. Any new information that results will become part of any decision and added to the file. Proposed changes to the regulations on subdivisions would have to be approved by a resolution adopted by the County Commissioners. Community Development department makes limited decisions on permitting; its role is facilitating permits and comments through the hearing process. Subsequent actions and responsibility are those of the applicant and the County Code Enforcer. Building inspectors are advised to look into violations and could possibly be available to stop at specific sites when necessary. Discussion followed.
3. Changing of the Noxious Weed Board Chair. Joe Greutz nominated Fred Smith as the next Board Chair. Dirk Veleke moved to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Fred as the Chair. Joe moved and Ken seconded. Fred Smith will continue as Board Chair. Ken nominated Joe and Fred nominated Dirk for position of Vice Chair. Dirk was selected unanimously to be the next Vice Chair.
4. 2018 State Noxious Weed List – The new list was adopted in November before the State Weed Association meeting and takes effect January 1 after being officially recorded in the WAC. County Weed Boards must adopt the new list within 60 days. To resolve the existing scheduling conflict Julie suggested we change the 1st quarter

meeting of the Noxious Weed Board to the 2nd Tuesday in February. The Board approved the change unanimously. Jean will announce the change to the public through media outlets.

Julie reviewed the changes and additions to the list with photos from the State Weed Board web page and a brief description of each. Two new weeds are the Small Flowered Jewelweed a Class A, and Spotted Jewelweed a Class C, both annual weeds with explosive seed dispersal. Also added this year is the European Colt's foot, and a hybrid of the Eurasian water milfoil with a native milfoil. Finally the Malta starthistle, very similar in appearance to Yellow Starthistle, was added as a Class B designate.

Nancy Redlin asked about the proposed addition of Cheatgrass; it was not approved. Discussion followed.

Mike elaborated on the designated areas for the Eurasian water milfoil control. A committee of the State Noxious Weed Board will look at the status of Eurasian watermilfoil as a whole for the state rather than deciding on county by county proposals and the Chelan County NW coordinator will be involved. While the PUD remains opposed to using chemicals in the Columbia River, Noah Fisheries is not. Discussion followed.

Meeting closed session for Coordinator's Evaluation

Board Members Roundtable

Nancy Redlin asked if someone from the NW would be willing to make a presentation to the Three Lakes neighborhood about noxious weed control throughout the vicinity. Of particular interest is the Russian knapweed. Discussion followed.

Dirk Veleke asked about contact with Irrigation Districts. Mike replied he met with 3 District Managers. All will be invited to the February workshop and will be presented with topics of particular interest.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 P.M.

Next meeting date will be Tuesday March 13, 2018 at 1:30pm