

Western Weed Coordinating Committee (WWCC) Annual Meeting  
Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 1:00pm – 5:00pm  
The Orleans, Las Vegas, NV

Attendees:

Slade Franklin WY Dept. of Ag  
Lindy Gardner USFWS Regional Invasive Species Coordinator for Prairie Mountain Region MT  
Steve Shelly USFS Missoula MT Invasive Species Coordinator Reg 1  
Rick Van Bebber USFS Invasive Species Coordinator Region 4  
Brian USDA ARS Reno Biocontrol Specialist  
Richard Lee IPM Coordinator BLM (Denver office)  
LD Walker BLM Noxious Weed Coordinator AZ  
Lisa Bryant BLM UT  
Steve Burningham UT Dept of Ag  
Tim Butler OR Dept of Ag  
Dave Burch MT Dept of Ag  
Tina Mudd MT Dept of Ag  
Scott Marsh NV Dept of Ag  
Kelly Uhing CO Dept of Ag  
Greg Haubrich WA Dept of Ag  
Bob Parsons NAWMA/Supervisor Park County Weed Supervisor  
Adrienne Peterson NAWMA Weed Free Forage Program/Sublette County Weed Supervisor  
Rita Beard NPS  
Greg Cox Crop Production Services  
John Cantlon DuPont  
Gina Ramos Senior Weed Specialist BLM Washington DC  
Al Tasker APHIS  
Ken ??? BLM WY  
Liz Galli-Noble CIPM  
Crystal Klym Invasive Plant Council of British Columbia  
Matt Voile ID Dept. of Ag  
Janet Valle USFS-SPF Ogden  
Curt Deuser NPS Invasive Species Management Team

*-Thanks to Dow and Dupont for sponsoring break refreshments*

*-Treasurer Eric Lane attending ISAC, Scott Marsh is taking over treasurer duties*

**Tuesday, December 1, 2009**

**Minutes approved contingent of the following changes:**

NV bill did not pass to assess fines. Lisa Bryant motioned, Gina Ramos seconded. Minutes approved.

**Bylaw changes:**

Proposed changes include SWC alliance and NGOs in WWCC by laws. Slade passed around proposed by law changes. Change wording under membership to state, federal agencies and

NGO's. Parsons wants to open up membership to counties. Greg: tribal involvement a few years ago but lost touch. (Ladonna Carlisle BIA OR weed coordinator and is interested.) Parsons: separate member dues from registration fees to clarify voting/non-voting privileges. Lindy: would this water down the WWCC? Dave: no. Lobbying issues/feds were discussed. Rita: don't lose sight of what we've worked on for 20 years. We don't vote a lot, don't blow out of proportion. Feds won't vote if it gets too close to lobbying. Don't include NGO's in votes but do include BIA. One vote per state, one vote per fed agency or tribe and do not include NGOs. All agreed.

Greg motion, Scott second to separate dues from registration. Approved. Motion carried.

Tim motion to expire education and awareness committee. Scott seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Dave motion to scratch sub committees and change to workgroup. Second AI Tasker. All in favor. Motion carried.

### **HHC – John Cantlon**

-Advocacy, policy enhancement with attitude without throwing anyone under the bus. First state to do this WY in 1896 Russian thistle first noxious weed declared followed by MT. ID weed conference was in 1922. Efforts have gone on for a long time.

-What is your ASK?

-Steering committee George Beck, John Cantlon, John Jachetta, Eric Lane, Lee Van Wychen. - Interviewing for new Director in December and will have in place by January 2010.

-Accomplishments: calling on congressional members during NIWAW 10. Called on appropriations, democratic advisors, and new partners. Provided IS policy list to the new Obama Administration. Assessed on the ground treatments at agency level. Began to align with WF and the Threat Campaign. Rebuttals prepared with university partners. Determined the IS community cannot: ask for more federal money, harass the agencies, act independently in a one dimensional way.

-2009 HHC supported lobbying symposium. Partnered with North American Wildlife Institute. - Began relationship building with federal leads and stressed the effectiveness of on the ground efforts. George Beck wrote Op Ed in the Coloradan calling for job creation through IS programs.

-2010 focus: going to all taxa, no exclusions. Multiply our efforts by going to the Governors. ----

-Initial efforts pushed by CO, WY, ID, and MT. Strengthen WGA's Executive Order and increase "nickel to a quarter".

-Next steps: develop state initiatives with WGA, WASDA, NASDA. But need \$70K by January, or it will fold. Continue to build relationships in January. Mid-February, efforts will ramp up during congressional committee and sub-committee hearings (House and Senate budget committees, Authorizing committees and Appropriations committees).

-Challenges:

\*"we're not your enemy, federal agencies" Can't win without you.

\*Efficiency of existing spending, nickel to a quarter formula summarizes HHC's goal of obtaining more results from current spending while making our 'ask' deficit neutral and palatable to both political parties.

\*Transparent measurement of how IS dollars are spent is a necessity.

\*Partnering with others (governors, DOA's, DNR, sportsmen, agriculture, and wildlife groups) for transparent and efficient IS funding.

- \*Develop clear and simple ASKs based on solutions to reduce turf wars.
- \*Fund HHC at a \$75K level with razor sharp effort.

### **State Champions Effort – John Cantlon**

John discussed the Champion State Invasive Species Initiative document that will go to Gov. Schweitzer. This outlines Issue – on state level, control is commonly curtailed with limited funding allocations. Situation – members from MT WY CO have created goal-oriented direction out of 2002 GAO report. Need Ag Directors approval to send up to Governors. It is essential to orchestrate a regional message. Western Governors will be asked to initiate policy with WGA, WASDA, and NASDA.

Four goal orientated directives:

1. Federal agencies shall meet there is control obligations under EO, ....federal agencies shall reduce current infestations five-fold by 2013.
2. Federal agencies shall provide pass through funding to state agencies....funding rewarded once states submit competitive requests.....
3. Each state agency must develop an IS plan, infrastructure line item and/or law....
4. State shall work in regional concert....Cooperation is essential....

Concerns: States will compete against themselves for funding. Asking from existing funds. Big frustration as a federal agency, take out of existing funding that will come from somewhere and hurt an existing programs. Ex, wild horse situation. USFS only sees 46% of IS budget towards IS control.

Hurdles were achieved by visiting with various Governors and found no pushback.

### **Federal Legislative Update – Senator Harry Reid staff**

Sen. Reid has hired a weed scientist on his staff. Weed Scientist Lisa Call and Policy Advisor-Agriculture Casey Gillette.

- Next year's budget worse than this year. Projects with more coordination and stakeholder buy-in will have better chance of funding.
- IS a bi-partisan issue. A lot of Senators and Congressman want to do something. They task staffers to come up with ideas. Most staff tasked with numerous, big projects.
- Every year, provide staffers with specific asks and recommendations.
- 100<sup>th</sup> meridian reintroduce during NISAW 2010. It can go national if that brings more supporters. Need to adjust numbers and increase revolving loan fund if changed to national. Senator is open to suggestions. Allows local municipalities to suggest priorities to governors and then moves to Interior. **Send technical suggestions this month to staffers.**
- Congressional sportsman foundation is highly respected and has groups in each state. Get to know these groups and they might convey message to Senators and Representatives.

*Sidenotes.....*

\*\*Tasker: Good opportunity \*\*\$50M/year/5 years in 10201 Farm Bill - some for education some for EDRR. Come up with projects not tied to CAPS.

\*\*USFS SPF funding set aside for EDRR. If state discovers a terrestrial plant, insect, or pathogen, can submit proposal. Funds will go towards eradication of that species statewide.

*Meeting adjourned for the day*

Wednesday, December 02, 2009

Additional attendees:

Dean (?) botanist BLM weed coordinator –

Dave moorehead Georgia

Andrew Canham - MRWC

Jeff Knight - Entomologist UNV

Frankie ???

Jennie Erickson - Acting National Invasive Species Program Coordinator NFW refuge system  
USFWS – DC.

**CIPM Update – Liz Galli-Noble**

- Mission: promote ecologically sound management of invasive plants through research and education.
- Established in 200 with federal earmark, \$45M in appropriations
- A lot of credit to Janet Clark
- Four science advisory members
- Good staff – Melissa, Diane, Kim, and Carla
- New boss – Tracy Sterling from NMSU
- Science communication, policy, research and tech expertise, project and event coordination (flowering rush project, MRWC, CWMA conference, weeds across borders).
- Highlights: Request for another federal appropriation. Ask: appropriate funding to provide base services to people struggling to manage invasives. Ex: county level people. Opportunity for \$10k/yr. subsidize website maintenance.
- NISAW/NIWAW - Janet would continue work with it as private contractor. People were getting nervous with feds and lobbying. Need to find funding that isn't tied to earmarks.
- Biocontrol symposium, noxious weed short course.
- Want to hire ANS expert internally
- CIPM to CISM???

**Missouri River Watershed Coalition (MRWC) – Andrew Canham**

- Please refer to handout provided for detailed information on MRWC
- Formed in 2005 during NIWAW
- Three years to get MOA signed, solidify plan, and develop central leadership
- 110 active members represent landowners, agencies, universities
- CIPM – Liz Galli Noble as coordinator and fiscal responsibilities.
- 2008 \$100k
- 2009 \$100k
- Current projects: identified goals: mapping project, EDRR project, education and outreach.

- Mapping options: EDDMaps; South Dakota system – includes invasives and priority species.
  - Why EDDMaps? Fast and ready to use, one database for both local and national data, custom hosted applications can quickly be developed, proved record with images, fully relational referenced taxonomic database, output to meet your needs. Queries by states or multiple states, use, etc. System will focus on plants and not other IS. Web page interface will be developed to allow users to enter the location of a species via google maps or by entering GPS coordinates. Include locations treatment etc. Practical and usable item.
- Education and outreach: key watershed wide message points. Produce educational and awareness products that could be immediately initiated.

### **National Park Service Invasive ARRA Project Review – Rita Beard**

Where money was going to come from under stimulus act, group of projects and needs that other federal agencies face due to amount of facilities and visitors. Facilities orientated. What could be funded by ARRA? \$750M funded 800 projects in 200 parks. Fix trails, energy vehicles, facilities, clean up abandoned mines, maintenance of abandoned roads. NPS has billions of dollars in backlog maintenance. \$6.3M wastewater treatment facility in Denali; visitor center roof, \$7363 given to peace memorial to fix an elevator. Smaller percentage to natural resources; 11 projects funded none in western us; 7 invasive plants projects - \$1.5M; west Dinosaur NP museum and visitor center got \$13M to reopen; 40 miles of trails closed given \$2M to reopen. Inv plant projects: address distribution and pathways linear facilities George Washington memorial parkway – inv plants along pkwy  
 2009 500% increase since 2000 in spending on invasives – benefit of team is their presence in parks increase awareness leading parks to choose to spend money on inv plants; trials – reached a plateau with awareness – thought “we’d be done by now” – go over plateau create line item budget before something new and eye catching takes the funds. . 15 parks use helicopter treatments. 250k hours of volunteers in San Francisco – great pr project, not all on invasive management though.

Treated 100K acres – 3% of what we know to exist

At this rate, it will take 43 years to treat all known invasive plant infestations.

12,500 acres controlled

“Controlled” = less than 1% acre on an annual basis.

Treated 700 species this year.

Challenges: trying to move into all taxa; pythons \$2M keep quagas confined to Lake Mead; ramp up ans program and coastal programs; exotic plant management team in southwest reviewing process, team has been in place for 10 years; complete review Jan 2011,

### **Tamarisk Bio-Control Lawsuit Update – Jeff Knight**

Involved in program in 1996 when Jack DeLoach visited NV. Slowly received funding from BIA, BLM, ARS. 1998 put first cages out on three sites in NV, with a total of 11 sites in the western US. Keep beetles in cages for maybe 2 years. Release permit will be issued, then proceed forward. SW willow flycatcher issue developed. 2001 got permit to release with conditions - Monitoring with defoliation of trees, spread of the beetle, understory recovery, birds, mammals, insects, etc. Funding will run out in 2010 and monitoring will discontinue. Zero budget for his department. 2004 general release permit allowed. 2004 to 2007 various people

came to NV to collect and move beetles. Actually released eggs not adult beetles. 100 trees at each release site. 2006 75% release trees dead at Lovelock site. At Schurz site 2006 50% release trees dead. Invertebrate monitoring: 3, 6, 8 mm holes, three each size per nest block, 10 nest blocks per site.

Million beetle march in 2004: Collected 15 airline miles from ground zero, three years after release. Collected beetles got shipped to Dan Bean at the Colorado Insectary. Most beetles didn't make it through the winter.

Another condition: Beetles would not be released within 200 miles from nearest SW flycatcher nest. Not released below 38<sup>th</sup> parallel, go into diapause early and die.

Three sites along major drainages that have salt cedar:

2007 – beetles established in Virgin River Wash UT/AZ

2008 beetles reported in Valley Wash, south of Caliente NV both sites were below 38<sup>th</sup> parallel

Late 2008 lawsuit filed against USDA-PPQ by the Center for Biological Diversity and the Maricopa Audubon Society.

Carinulata spp mainly in NV and UT

No movement south of Hawthorne near 38<sup>th</sup> parallel

UT populations all across UT.

CO has some Crete strain.

MT has tapered off

Beetles start off great then quit mid-summer.

OR has several locations of beetles.

Aug 2009 lawsuit dismissed as PPQ agreed to terms of lawsuit: redo consultation on endangered species impacts, restoration

Lovelock site: restoration with a species would be futile due to conditions of site

Consequences: no more PPQ collections and release. Will continue to monitor; permits for interstate movement revoked, can't move between two states; PPQ encourages states not to move beetles with the states and suggest consultation with USFWS before moving beetles.

States will continue with releases within the states from their own populations,

Some have stopped: if they have SW willow flycatcher

All movement stopped in NV; major biocontrol and other funding through PPQ.

Future releases and new agents: how long will it take to get consultation done?? Took over three years back in late 90's. There are questions now, probably 3 – 4 years to complete.

### **BLM Invasive ARRA Project Review – Gina Ramos**

\$2.9M

Get slide for state projects funded habitat restoration projects. CO 25 projects \$3.4M

<http://recovery.doi.gov/> for more information

Prevention campaign took place in 2008 by partnering with FICMNEW and the ANS Task Force. Items such as bumper stickers and magnetic signs were offered free of charge from local BLM offices. "Stop the Invasion!"

Contact BLM Weed Coordinators from each state.

NV hired Weed Coordinator Mark Koka in Reno.

NEPA is slowing down the process.

Funding has sunset date, all in panic to get info out on grants.gov

BLM project categories for ARRA 2009:

- completing a report to congress at end of this year.
- Renewable energy authorizations
- capital improvements
- habitat restoration
- abandoned mined lands
- deferred maintenance
- roads and bridges maintenance and construction
- trails maintenance and construction

Looking at landscape level initiatives, WY and NV funded as well as NM.  
 Climate change: meeting in Copenhagen, Sec. Salazar attending with BLM rep next week.  
 Ramos provided write up on ecosystem change in response to fire. All weed related.

### **US Fish and Wildlife Service Invasive ARRA project review – Jennie Ericson**

Refer to handout

Michael Lusk returned to field in Florida.

Stimulus funding enabling completion of numerous projects.

DOI has received \$3B from ARRA. FWS received \$280M. BoR received most as compared to NPS and BLM.

Priority needs addressed in agency and created largest number of jobs in shortest amount of time. Of \$280M, deferred maintenance received most funding. Invasive species couched within habitat restoration and youth and employment. ?? received \$50M. National Wildlife Refuges received \$201M. Habitat restoration received \$17M – small amount.

Specific projects: a lot of money went to the Partners Program. Examples: IN Invasive Species program received \$70k, AK received \$145Kkfor a couple of projects, FLA received \$625k, AK has an EDRR focus towards weeds such as reed canarygrass, white sweetclover, and common tansy. Survey identified 260 reed canarygrass sites. All sites are less than one acre in size. Control efforts are mostly mechanical removal. Kodiak isle was recently sued for using herbicides.

Spotted knapweed: eradication is the goal for 10 known sites and 18 documented patches. Largest number of plants occur along railways.

Region 6 good at moving projects through and use a lot of youth crews. Rocky Mountain Arsenal is a good example.

Problems: had to get pushed through quickly. Deadline was Sept. 30, 2010 for obligation of funds.

Refuge system: of the 2.4M acres infested, only 14% are treated.

GAO report on Refuge spending. Survey with refuge managers indicated most common number one problem was invasive plants. Number one area of increase spending is invasive plants.

2008 \$15.3M in invasive species work which is a big increase from 2004.

Five Invasive Species Strike Teams modeled after NPS team model. Teams are located in the Everglades, HI, lower CO, MT, ND. They don't have central coordination. There is no consistency in how strike teams act from region to region.

Inreach to fire crews, law enforcement,

Capacity building – field techniques for invasive species management. NCTC course open to anyone. 480 lbs of garlic mustard were pulled in 1.5 hours last year.

CIPM – created with online training program. Anyone can access this program. Goes through planning, assessing, monitoring, surveying and different management techniques. Available at [fws.gov](http://fws.gov)

Volunteer and friends groups are being engaged. 2003 received annual appropriations, then went into their base. Competitive grants, monitoring, and capacity building.

### **FICMNEW Update – Rita Beard**

Advantages of thinking all taxa:

Great speakers talking in a united front on resources and attention needed for IS.

NISAW in January. Morning nationally renowned speakers, afternoons are special sessions, lobbying on the hill, evening reception, etc. coalition building

Challenges: how feds interact with this effort to ensure we are not part of the lobbying effort but are there to answer your questions and concerns. It was never our role to be a lobbying organizations or on behalf of our own agencies.

Biofuels: bmp's to limit the spread of biofuels. 2009 permit for genetically engineered eucalyptus. FICMNEW increase opp's to comment and forewarn of selecting plants of high adaptation, dramatic effects of fire frequency in forests.

Jennie: Weeds Across Borders: June 1-4, 2010 in WV in Natl Conservation Training Center. FICMNEW is sponsor. Theme plant invasions, policy, politics, and practices. Overview from three countries, session on cooperation and partnerships, global trade, current and emerging research, field trip focusing on pathways. Next to Appalachian trail, border management, awareness and educational programs, EDRR issues and workshop. Feb issue of rangelands devoted to invasive weeds and rangelands.

Fire "Redbook" operational guidelines: include provisions for moving through aquatic environments. Encourages not to pull water from one drainage and not dump in another one.

Tasker: Farm Bill 10201 funds: \$12M FY 2009, \$45M FY 2010, \$50M FY 2011 and thereafter  
See website for more information. Mitigation capacity; improve current mechanism to determine ED action; utilize initial response protocols; prepare the agency and collaborative programs in the use of the Incident Command System for plant health response activities; provide technical assistance prior to, during, and immediately following the development of a plant health emergency thought the development of New Pest Response Guidelines (Action Plans).

Rapid Response money different from CAPS money. APHIS likes matching, make more palatable. Rapid Response on regional basis.

2010 money already in place. Proposals for 2011 are next option.

Search APHIS website for 10201.

### **Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative – Justin Caudill WY Dept. of Ag**

Using science and partnerships and local participation to address resource needs. [www.Wlci.gov](http://www.Wlci.gov)

Partners: BLM, USFWS, USGS, WY Game and Fish, Wy Dept of Ag, Conservation Districts (CDs), BOCC's, NPS, USFS, NRCS, BoR.

Exec committee: directors of Wy Game and Fish, USGS, CDs, BOCC, BLM, FWS director, Dept of Ag director.

Developing partnerships including industry, conservation groups, private landowners, grazing associations, universities, utility companies, sportsmen's organizations, other state (DOT) and local government agencies.

Original size over 15M acres. Expanded to Sweetwater, Sublette, and Carbon counties bringing total area to over 19M acres.

Six main goals: see website

Two products offered: local participation and interaction between all governmental groups. 2. Designing projects and backing up with science.

Local teams to id issues, prioritize projects, ask each member have an overlay map, focus on areas with overlapping concerns, what can we do to improve this for everybody.

Little problems with teams. Teams first set up on boundaries of watersheds. TNC good partner. USGS working comprehensive assessment include climate change and adaptive management strategies. Gather existing data and local knowledge, use data to inform conservation and figure out where science gaps are. Develop science strategy plan – implement various science methods. Science management integration – plan for applying science, includes monitoring and greater consistency of protocols.

Visit producers, counties, and CDs to solicit local knowledge to help them form predicting vegetation trends, invasive weed patterns, align priority areas, weed and other priority maps.

Five focus areas – sagebrush, mountain shrub, aspen riparian aquatic

Public and private lands

Design – landscape scale, science based, partner support and collaboration

Priority Objectives:

Fragmented habitat-migration corridors,

Invasive species

Water quality and quantity

Examples of projects: invasive weed treatments, removal of conifers from aspen stands, improve fish passage, fix problem fences, create mosaic habitats, conservation agreements, USGS research, creation of new wetlands, forage reserves

WY front aspen treatment projects: partners BLM RMEF WGFD, goal 9k acres of critical aspen will be treated over 10 yr period, mechanical removal of conifers. Offering chips to industry for ground stabilization.

Jonah – one of the biggest gas strips in the US. Anticline drilling 10-12K feet. Come up with new fracking since area is very tight. 28 well heads on one pad and putting them under ground. Anticline is prettier than jonah.

Triple Peak forage reserve: Trout unlimited, USFS, WGFD, permittee, allotment retirement

Trumpeter Swan project; WGFD Rimfire Ranch, 45 acres of new habitat for trumpeter swan, boreal toad, Columbia spotted frog, additional waterfowl species

Tamarisk Removal: Sweetwater and Uinta County Weed Programs, BLM, private landowners, WGFD Anadarko Petroleum, Rock Springs Grazing Association.

Communication: website, myUSGS intranet site, newsletter, other media

[Wlci\\_wymail@blm.gov](mailto:Wlci_wymail@blm.gov)

[jcaudi@state.wy.us](mailto:jcaudi@state.wy.us)

### NISAW/ISAC

Advise federal agencies on invasive species policy acting through NISC

Discussing climate change and implications for Invasive Species. And state invasive species councils. Sec. of CA's food and ag come to speak with them. CA just passed new invasive species council. Janet cautions they don't have funding authority to directly address these issues.

7 new members: Eric Lane, Jennifer Vollmer, Joe DiTomasso, reviewing biofuels whitepapers at this meeting.

### **Bugwood EDDMaps – David Moorehead**

“Map it, zap it, map it again”

Refer to handout. Incorporates all taxa. Develop and provide specific programs and information. Leverage programs and activities already in place, pull together, foster cooperation, deliver product more than one entity can use.

Got started with images. Extensive program with collecting images for all taxa that go worldwide.

Hired new IS coordinator will oversee EDDMaps mapping programs.

Information services have a database backbone. Enables linking to internal resources.

Incorporates FIA damage agents,

2008 had 208 million hits globally. Look at developing interface to deliver specific info to that group. Query and develop application.

Invasive.org is all taxa invasives system.

Invasive Plant Atlas

Forestry Images – trees, plants, practices, insects

Customized publications: 200k copies distributed of Invasive Plants of eastern US cd

Invasive plants of Georgia’s forests, invasive plant responses to silvicultural practices in the south, cogongrass id card

Web services image support; NAPIS, APHIS, Lucid key development software

put things together with images, where there are worksheets, bulletins, those links will also be included.

Bugwood wiki application. Wiki a way to develop and deliver information. Closed authorship wiki – bugwood wiki scholars. Wiki is HI for fast. Content management system.

High plains ipm wiki – crops, livestock, insects, first detector training for master gardeners.

EDDMapS – link on bugwood

Report species, report verified, rapid assessment, response.

Map it zap it and map it again. Google maps as base for locating infestations, enter gps data

Standard worksheet to enter info done with drop down sheets. Document treatments. Remap, monitor occurrence, list follow up treatments.

Started in 2005 for southeastern US. Now provides a picture of distribution across the US.

Enter data, need to verify accuracy. Set up verifiers in the state and go to clearinghouse to verify before it is released into system.

National/international focus, aggregate data from other systems not replaced. Data can be at county level. Sometimes volunteers are trained to collect data from field.

Use of data: more complete distribution data

ED of new invaders, ID of leading edges, refinement of lists and priorities, clearer picture of invasive species problem, justification of need for management and resources.

Electronic early detection system. Each state county or other area has a designated reviewer responsible for verifying all data entered for that area. Each user can designate which species

they want to be notified on as new occurrences are reported. EDDMapS sends automatic email alert

Pythons being caught in Jacksonville FLA.

ID and supporting users' needs, how can we make you look better

### APHIS Update – Alan Tasker

Weeds are things but invasion is a process of these things crossing several barriers: geographic, survival, establishment, dispersal and spread, impact and harm

Federal noxious weed definition

Use science based methods to prevent introduction

Exclude and detect introduced species

Eradication is primary target

State regulates within their boundaries in the absence of a federal quarantine

APHIS: Authority to establish categories and develop management plans

41 taxa as A1 exclusion targets

62 taxa as A2 official control

B list regulated non quarantine list. On seed list but not federal weed list. 9 spp

Risk assessment, contingency planning, site selection, benefit cost analysis, monitoring and

EDRR, post performance bonds

--Biomass systems may in result in more habitat destruction and likelihood of spread than would the occasional feral plant.

In choosing a site it is important to consider plant's biology, growth in cultivation, transport of the feed stocks, planning and harvesting methods, likely resource inputs (water fertilizer)

--Program targets: Japanese dodder found in CA, OR adding it to A list; *Caulerpa taxifolia* detected in 2001 along CA coast, eradicated 2008; cogongrass; common broomrape; branched broomrape; giant hogweed; giant salvinia; goatsrue; hydrilla; onionweed; tropical soda apple; spiderwort; witchweed – eradicated in SC, \$50 to \$80M spent; wormleaf salsola

--biocontrol targets: DT CT, FB, *G. salvinia*, hydrilla, LS, rush skeletonweed,

Other program initiatives:

--EDRR Farm Bill

--PTI – new emphasis on keystone habitats – allocated \$1.3M to 2009 projects

--Q37 revisions

2009 update

--witchweed SC to release last acres from quarantine

--purpose eradicate from US

--WW is an obligate parasite which attacks????WHAT??

--Program progressing as planned

--the next two years are critical for the program

Adding seven species to federal weed list

-*acacia nilotica* – prickly acacia

-*ageratina riparia* – mistflower in HI only. Also in MX, center of origin. Likely to establish in southern states

- arctotheca calendula – capeweed – CA does regulate
- euphorbia terracina – false caper –
- inula Britannica – British yellowhead – came from hosta roots in Holland, CAPS survey had Michigan as only positive
- onopordum acaulun - stemless thistle
- onopordum illyrium??????

Provide additional detail about requirements for permits to move noxious weeds.

Federal import quarantine order for climbing ferns. Fast process to prevent entry into us, import as cut flower greenery. Currently only in Florida.

Revision and validation of plant risk assessment – adding other elements to Australian system.

80 FNW factsheets drafted

Official control: aphis has authority to recognize state programs as having official control. Will be established by policy.

Quadrilateral scientific collaboration in plant biosecurity (QUAD) – pest mgmt issues in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA. Weed mgmt tool box concept. Canadian invasive plant framework to establish a national invasive plant forum for Canadian stakeholder discussions.

Inconvenient truth by Upton Sinclair  
It is difficult to get a man to understand.....

***Success stories from Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund dvd was shown***  
***Control project***  
***Biocontrol project***  
***Educational project***

*Meeting adjourned for the day*

**Thursday Dec. 3, 2009**

**Impact of the Northern Leopard Frog – Steve Spangle USFWS Endangered Species Office**

Shaula\_hedwell@fws.gov 928-226-0614x103 in Flagstaff office. Helpful with additional information.

Jean Calhoun 604-242-0210 to get information on environmental contaminants

Background info on NLF: smooth skin green or brown 2-4" long; mosaic of habitats; wide ranging in North America; different colored phases;

Range: Newfoundland to central US over to the west US. Nature serve map reported by states, map on gross scale. Not accurate representation. Historical presence may not equal current presence visa versa. Get more precise information through state heritage basis. Extirpated in some areas. Imperiled in TX, NM, Pacific NW. Vulnerable in four corners area. Secure in eastern Canada, NE, SD. Does not occur in KS and OK. Significant decline throughout the US and Canada.

Petition to add the NLF is a distinct population segment to the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act: USFWS received the petition in 2006 by center of native ecosystems and eight other entities for western US only but determined WI should be included (where east meets west) – 19 states total.

90 day finding: issue on July 1, 2009; first step in a long process that triggers a more thorough review of all the biological information available. If initial review of petition found to be substantial; petition indicated western population may be genetically distinct; NLF is experiencing threats from habitat loss, disease, non-native species, pollution, and climate change. Then followed by a 12 month status review process; used to determine whether to propose adding the species to the federal lists of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants; solicit information from the public; look at what has been petitioned and if it is warranted; 12 month different arrangement for listing process. Do a very in-depth review and come up with a different conclusion than the petition.

-pollution: pesticides fertilizers air-borne pollution

-climate change: western US predicted to be warmer and drier which is a threat as breeding sites dry up, hard to predict what CC will do to the species; Kittredge fungus thrives better in colder weather – warmer weather would be bad for kittredge

-can get petition from the website

-closing date for comments end of Nov. 27, 2009 (soft deadline – comments submitted after date still considered) get findings released in early spring/summer.

-look at species as a whole and if listing is worthy, solicit best information

-12 month status review: listing not warranted; or warranted and published proposed rule to list it throughout range or partial range petitioned; or warranted but secluded finding. Gets to top do proposed rule, final rule, then listed.

[northernleopardfrog@fws.gov](mailto:northernleopardfrog@fws.gov) includes information on status, distribution, threats.

Contaminants and amphibians:

-amphibians highly susceptible to contaminants including fertilizers, pesticides, and detergents  
-exposure to contaminants during development can lead to malformations

Handouts – homeowner's guide to protecting frogs; Q and A on 90 day finding

Choose non-chemical weed controls, minimize fertilizer use  
IPM important

Objectives of WWCC will help NLF as process continues.

### **NPDES Permitting – Jeff Case CropLife**

Background: back to 1990's when court cases brought to the 9<sup>th</sup> circuit on NPDES permit around water.

- Unnecessary, delved into clean water act not to be included in permits.
- Program put into place to take care of point source contaminants that come out of factories and production, anything manmade.
- Decision made by 9<sup>th</sup> circuit, liberal, certain apps that do need NPDES, left up to states on how to implement.
  - WA most extreme put into place permitting system for 7-8 years.

Industry and agriculture encouraged EPA to come out with some type of final rule or judgment whether permits were required for app.

-2006 came out with rule, application of pesticides to waters of the US in compliance with FIFRA published in federal register on Nov. 27, 2006

Farm Bureau and America forest and paper association intervened

- Petitions filed in 8 other circuit courts – 9<sup>th</sup>, second, and first
- 6<sup>th</sup> circuit chosen via lottery (Nat'l Cotton Council petitioner in 6th circuit becomes named party)
  - 6<sup>th</sup> circuit located in KY, TN, OH area

Three judge panel made ruling on Jan. 7, 2009, struck down final rule

- conflict with clean water act; waters of US- any hydrological connection to navigable waters
- Point source – nozzles used in ground and aerial applications
- Pollutants – chemical waste is a pollutant

Potential scope of decision – any terrestrial or aquatic would possibly require NPDES permit for aerial and ground apps. Now EPA takes narrow interpretation of ruling, focus on apps to or over water – mosquito, broad area apps over streams

EPA – granted a stay and have until April 2011 to put a general permitting system in place, industry's motion for rehearing en banc denied on Aug 3, 2009 by sixth circuit  
CLA, RISE, and AFBE filed cert petition appealing the sixth circuit decision to the Supreme Court

Activists already announced that permits which are too general will be challenged legally

NE came out with draft rule FIFRA label will be their permit. Activist will sue NE if rule becomes final.

EPA Actions:

- Alisson Wiedeman – rural branch chief, EPA office of water, good to work with, wants to do right thing, she has reached out to industry for help, she also reached out to special interests
- EPA will develop general permits for five state, tribal lands and territories
- 25 person ASWIPCA-AAPCO working group
- Draft permits will include aquatic herbicides and mosquito larvicides and adulticides

-Expectation that states will adopt EPA's "model general permits" or something more stringent

EPA timeline:

disseminate prototype – fall 2009

Propose draft permits – Aug 2010

Finalize permits – Dec 2010

Mandate issues – Aug 2011

Challenge to meet timeline, already behind.

\*Timeline does not apply to states that develop permit on their own. Look at general permit model, put out as starting point, and leave up to states to determine exactly what provisions they want to add to that.

Industry actions

-Continue to exhaust all legal options

-Industry will continue to work with EPA on development of workable general permits

-Remain active in seeking legislative remedy

-Work with the states to ensure that there is coordination between the lead pesticide agency and NPDES agency

-Work closely with allied organizations - keep them informed and involved as opportunities arise

Other problems with general permitting system

-Washington state experience is costly, time intensive limited product availability

-Challenges in meetings timeline could result in something less than desirable

-Activists already announced that permits which are too general will be challenged

-Clean water restoration act (S. 787) would expand Clean Water Act jurisdiction to "all waters of the US."

Final thoughts

-The ruling ignores the reach of FIFRA in covering the environmental effects of pesticides including impact in water

-Decision reverses 30 years of EPA policy in implementing the Clean Water Act, and their definition of point source contaminants

-NPDES permits for pesticide use are unnecessary will result in additional costs with no environmental benefit

-This is a "fall on the sword" issue for the pesticide industry

Review Senate Bill 787, NASDA has taken position against it.

ROUNDTABLE

Janet Valle: new director in Ogden, Michael Dudley has extensive fire background. He is willing to learn about weeds and get better understanding of fire and weeds. Also have a new program leader in DC for SPF grant and pesticide program Steve Kuvel from DoD-National Guard not good forest service background but good in toxicology. But he wants to learn.

Very busy, funding came very late. Got all funding out for 2009. Decrease amounts each year.

Bark beetle has been increased due to west epidemic and on congress radar.

Good year with ARRA. Asked for projects under hazard fuels reduction category. Got \$10M for noxious weed projects under above category. Thanks you all for work you're doing with partners, commitment, and professionalism. Last minute but all came through.

*ASK – west wide EDRR program. Simple if states could embrace, SPF willing to push into states. Get Janet proposal by end of February to include in MT's yearly application for entire western region. Dave Burch would write proposal and sub contract with Liz through CIPM, under MRWC. Easy transition from group to states not in coalition.*

Al – still look at Farm Bill 10201 for regional EDRR. Need to keep good monitoring data to determine efficacy. Read original EDRR document on FICMNEW website.

Very long discussion of EDDMapS.

Tim: weed mapper project in OR. Points on a map, randomized, take lat long and place it in center of a section. [www.weedmapper.org](http://www.weedmapper.org)

Crystal Klym BC – Invasive Alien Plant Program “IAPP”, BC Ministry of Forests and Range

Matt – numerous lists for western US, lack of uniformity.

Gina - national highlights. Weeds got funding out of climate change program. Funds from 8100 and 8200. Money going back to counties specifically for monitoring and weed control.

-second year of veg treatments implementation of the EIS. Number of states implementing. OR has step down to address state specific issues. Gina issuing RFP to start updating older risk assessments and to add new herbicides to BLM list. RFP out next spring.

-early 2010 BLM deploying Natl Invasive species management system. Inventory monitoring treatment info. Spatial and web based. Testing out and now full deployment. Centrally housed. Collect inventory info from counties. Process for review. Collect info from public but not posted on site until verified. Use as edrr. First phase in weeds, terrestrial, then on to other taxa. Private lands info blm will collect but not available to the public just coop agreements with the counties. Similar to eddmapps for public lands. Database already linked to Plants and PMIS. We collect treatment info. All field offices have been sent hand held units, then uploaded to national database. Already have all legacy data from counties to include. Kathy Jewell, project manager and will train to every blm field office. Invite counties and states to training sessions.

-completed two IS and weed evals for WY and AK. Available on BLM website. 2010 MT and Dakotas on schedule and eastern states.

-IPM certification. Blm has strictest requirements.

LD – Tim has proclamation from OR with full page weed act. Put into AZ hunting proclamation.

Lindy – Great Northern landscape conservation cooperatives. Will have funding and coordinator. Contact people listed in handout for more info. Has a lot of interest – Sec. Salazar.

Cantlon – state champions effort – created table to give to Gov. Schweitzer – Federal IS assessment draft. Federal component of ASK. Yesterday WGA put this on agenda at winter meeting. Attacking on education, wma's, etc. now pushing on leadership. Any heartburn,

concerns, or ASKs? Three asks from BLM. EDRR revolving fund idea? put into specific ask? Buried in the NISC strategy. Linearity for federal agencies in treating invasives as a program in line.

-NASDA came to DuPont to host a tour of research facilities. Tour will take place during next NASDA meeting on east coast. Went to FICMNEW, DOD, Mangold will come to training. Location Wilmington Delaware from 9-4pm. Get into the science. FICMNEW tour in February.  
-DuPont finished USDA r and d product. Two new compounds for mtn pine beetle. Exploring operations in western US. Smaller env footprint. Studies around dermal toxicology. Have a possible offer for new product solution for mountain pine beetle.

Bob – NAWMA has hired new webmaster, will have changes up by January. Will become involved in handling funding for HHC. Current Board has new great ideas.

Adrienne – WFF new NAWMA twine is made by continental western that is yellow and purple. Titan is going to try and match it. New color and new size and ease of delivery. They will ship directly to the grower pending approval of the state or county.

Steve - work on two weeds; medusahead rye and tall whitetop.

Dave – found two yellow starthistle plants this summer. MT redoing its weed list. Deleting category and going to priority list. Third priority is regulated weed category. R-o, cheatgrass, and hydrilla. Can regulate sale in MT.

-eric hanson is dept of ag IS coordinator through S 345 ans bill. Go back into legislation in 2012 and enhance legislation. GF \$330K.

Scott – get bill passed to assess fines on landowners to control weeds, but killed in assembly thanks to farm bureau. Got bill to develop weed districts. Moved into new office in June.

-EDRR looking at listing new species of jointed goatgrass and elongated mustard. EM is in central NV, southcentral CO, northern UT. Let Scott know of any information.

-found purple starthistle in NV

-EM first came into OR in early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Steve UT – new Rush skeletonweed, small patch new to the state. Managing EM in northern UT. Couple years ago found garlic mustard in Salt Lake and Park City area.

-biggest concern is budget. Up to 15% cut next year. \$850 to \$1B. No new taxes. Losing staff.

-layoff 3,000 school teachers and public employees to balance budget

Tim – OR had new sighting of purple Iberian starthistle spread over 9 acres. Only second site in OR. May have come in from some hay.

-Orange hawkweed in central OR really moving in housing cracks and was sold as ornamental. Seeing it spread.

-legislative session was positive, no new money for weeds though. All natural resource committee hearings would get into debates on weeds and invasives. Example, proposed budget cut of \$400k from grant program. Debated cut. Ended up not accepting proposed cut.

-consolidating weed law. Had statutes in three different areas and put into one section.

-OR inv species council is active and helped in legislative session. Bill pass for emergency fund. Got \$350k tied to ATV registrations.

-WFF – moving program forward. Had 45 growers participated, 3,300 acres inspected. Have tremendous support from USFS with funds.

-example of good EDRR, 2008 found spartina patch on mouth of Columbia River. 800 sq ft patch detected. Treated with imazapyr and glyphosate. This fall only seven plants found. Caught it quickly and maybe eradicate by next year.

-working with *Diorhabda* on saltcedar in eastern OR. Observed good impacts.

-All taxa movement a double edge sword, direction agencies have gone with NISAW but concern is if we're going to lose weed money in process.

Matt – ID lost \$12M from program, lost two positions, did get \$500k deficiency warrant – credit card. \$10 in state \$20 out of state boat sticker fee. Numerous complaints.

-\$2.5M in cwma funding

-\$400K cut

-\$2M stimulus funding a few projects USFS

-have senator and state legislator that are good proponents of program

-adding 10 new species to weed list – mainly aquatics

-remove three species from the weed list for the first time

-add new non regulatory category

Steve Shelly – database anxiety, have a federal system.

UT – set up mapping with agencies ARGS, willing to do GIS work to put together maps got started. Challenge is getting counties to submit data. Have system in place but don't have ability to collect the information. Need to give incentive some way to do that.

BC – website has a lot of information on current projects. IPC of BC established as registered society in 2005. We need to collaborate and coordinate over jurisdictional boundaries. Guided by board of directors, various insights. Elected by perspective annually. Five different committees with a number of different people working on this. Developing EDRR framework for BC.

Provincial ranking project. How can we create criteria to rank invasive plants? And criteria that are region-specific. March 2009 have aquatics committee and looking to PNW for advice and see what key messaging is. Funded through a combo of ministry of ag lands a lot is project specific.

Write proposals, roll out programs even with no funding.

Suggestions for 2010 WWCC meeting:

Readjust schedule

Less speakers, more reports from state programs and federal agencies

Explore possibility of having administrative staff attend to record minutes

Richard Lee will make sure staff from BoR attends the 2010 WWCC meeting.

Meeting adjourned