



4-County CWMA Meeting

October 18th, 2017, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
Conference Room B-1
4700 NE 78th Street, Vancouver, WA 98665
Snacks and coffee provided by Clark County.

Attendees

Aaron Shaw, Tualatin SWCD
Brad Mead, Clark Public Utilities
Chad Stemm, Sound Native Plants
Charlie Nappi, Portland Parks
Dan Friez, Columbia Land Trust
Jeff Lesh, Clackamas SWCD
Jeff Merrill, Metro
Jeff Wittler, Clark Public Utilities
Justin Collell, Clark County Veg. Mgmt.
Katie Bartholet, Clark County

Kevin Fitzgerald, Multnomah County
Lindsey Karr, Clackamas SWCD
Lucas Nipp, East Multnomah SWCD
Matthew Lee, Columbia Slough WC
Michelle Delepine, West Multnomah SWCD
Mitch Bixby, Portland BES
Nichole Linehan, Portland Parks
Sam Leininger, Clackamas SWCD
Sarah Hamilton, 4-County CWMA
Whitney Bailey, East Multnomah SWCD

Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

Casey Gozart, Coordinator, Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board
Michelle Delepine, Invasive Species Program Coordinator, West Multnomah SWCD

- The fact sheets have been redone. We have some of the old prints available at the meeting today. Please feel free to take them.

Crane's Landing: Management Goals and Noxious Weeds Controlled

Dan Friesz, Natural Area Manager, Columbia Land Trust

Columbia Land Trust's [Cranes Landing](#) is one of the last strongholds for the endangered sandhill cranes. Approximately 1200 sandhill cranes use the property for up to 8 months of the year, with some birds migrating to California in December. Cranes are omnivorous, eating grains, worms, frogs and mice. To support the populations on this 527 acre property, a variety of grains and other plants are grown to provide forage, habitat, and prey. Corn is planted in rows which are situated to fall over at various times providing grain throughout the season. Other crops include buckwheat and grasses.

The site was a repository for dredged materials from the bottom of Vancouver Lake. Weed seeds came in with the dredged material, and there are a number of weeds present on the site. They have been actively controlling the weeds for several years.

- 64 acres of blackberry were removed, but poison hemlock and milk thistle grew in to those areas.
- Last summer there were over 1200 milk thistle plants on the property. 2 tons of root material were removed by hand. This year there were less than 200 plants, which were mostly sprayed.
- Datura (jimsonweed) is growing thick in many places. It only comes up in open areas. 4-5000 plants were pulled this year. The plants readily re-root, seeds last for over a century in the soil seed bank, and it goes to flower after just 2 weeks, making it difficult to control.
- Pokeweed is starting to show up, as well.
- This year grass was seeded in in June to help fill the disturbed areas and prevent weed germination, but the rains didn't return until autumn. The grass is only beginning to sprout now.

This sanctuary will be managed for cranes indefinitely. There are interpretive signs around, and they are considering installing trails and elevated viewing platforms for the public in the future. But the highest concern is to protect the cranes.

Learn more about sandhill cranes here: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00396/>

WSDA Weed-Free Hay and Mulch

Cindy Cooper and Lara Massey, WSDA Plant Services Program

WSDA has a certification program for Weed-Free Hay and Forage. The program uses a standard developed by NAISMA ([North American Invasive Species Management Association](#)). Counties and other organizations are also welcome to adopt the NAISMA standards with some training. NAISMA sets minimum standards for weed-free forage including field inspection, inspection certificates, transit certificates, and forage tags or twine. It provides assurance that the products meet a minimum standard. The program was developed to prevent back-country horses from spreading noxious weeds to wilderness areas. Horses must be fed weed-free forage while in the back country and before heading out there.

There are 54 species on the NAISMA Weed Free Forage and Gravel North America Designated Prohibited Weed List. All classes on the Washington State Noxious Weed list are included, as are all species on WSDA quarantine.

Field Inspection standards:

Minimum of 2 entry points per field. Inspector must go at least 150 feet into the field. Inspections must occur within 10 days of harvest, including ditches and storage areas. Areas of infestation within a field may be excluded from the weed free designation if they aren't harvested with the designated forage. Any propagative flower parts must be excluded, but vegetative weeds may be included long as there is no danger of dissemination of seed or reproductive propagules.

The current NAISMA accepted twine color is lavender and yellow, which can only be purchased by the inspecting agency, though reimbursements for twine and inspections are possible.

Forage tags may also be used. Tags are attached to bales, and allow for interstate travel without a transit certificate.

Lara Massey:

[Washington Weed Free Hay and Mulch Program \(WWHAM\)](#) in Washington was started by [Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board](#). WSDA eventually took it over. They charge for inspection time and mileage, as well as twine and tags. [PISCES](#) (Plant Inspection Services & Certification Electronic System) is a computer program which processes applications. After certification, tags and certificates are provided through PISCES. 7 counties offer gravel certifications, but it is not offered at the state level. 18 counties offer weed free hay certifications. Technical services agreements are in place with those counties and are renewed every 2 years. WSDA is responsible for inspections in counties where no agreement is in place.

Twine is distributed in early spring. It is controlled from production to grower. Growers cannot order the twine directly from vendors. Some counties purchase twine directly and either charge or don't charge for it. Others have an agreement with WSDA to store the twine. The cost for the twine is \$38/per bale (of twine) + shipping charges. Tags are \$.51 each. Charges vary across the country.

Gravel: NAISMA is working in new standards for gravel. They have combined the 2 committees so they are the Weed-Free Gravel and Forage Committee. The standards are available on the website. To become a participating agency, you must fill out a form with NAISMA.

PISCES does not link consumers with weed free forage, but there is another page on the WSDA website with a list of producers with certified products.

East Fork Lewis River Knotweed Control

Brad Mead, Clark Public Utilities

Justin Collell, Clark County Vegetation Management

Brad is working for CPU on knotweed control on the East Fork of the Lewis River. They have located the highest known population on an improvised camp ground. It is above the floodplain and is unlikely to spread through the waterway, but it is being treated regardless. The bulk of the infestation is between Moulton Falls and Lucia Falls. In coming years they will be surveying the creeks above this area. This year they surveyed 16 miles along the mainstem and tributaries. Next year they hope to do 25 miles. All known infestations were treated. Initial treatments happen over 2 years, then they will take a year off to allow for more surface area develop, and return for another year. *Linnaria vulgaris*, butter and eggs, was found along the roadside and treated.

Q: Do you pair treatments with surveys?

A: Usually, no. But in areas where they expect to find large infestations, they likely will.

Suggestions came in for knotweed treatments: Spray in the fall. Injections may happen earlier in the season, but may be less effective and use more herbicide and time. Imazapyr is the best treatment in the autumn. Another suggestion is to cut knotweed in mid-summer and spray the regrowth in the autumn, which uses up some of the root reserves. This method can be very effective. Another suggestion: pinch the stems to bring the plant lower and treat it without mowing and waiting for regrowth.

Justin Collell is working with Clark County Veg. Mgmt. on the East and North Forks of the Lewis River. Along the mainstem they've been treating knotweed for several years. This year they sent out over 800 mailers to landowners on significant tributaries. Largely the surveys were negative, but they did find some new large patches. They have treated all of the known knotweed infestations in the area mostly using a foliar application of glyphosate. They use imazapyr very infrequently. Surveys cover the stream areas and floodplains. Other noxious weeds found in these surveys: purple loosestrife and garlic mustard.

CWMA Committees and Working Group Updates

- **Mapping & Data Committee** Jeff Lesh, Clackamas SWCD
The meeting was cancelled in September. They have had success partnering with the technical committee lately in developing the weed list. It will be added to the website soon. It includes ranks of all of the partner organizations. The group will be meeting next on November 8th to review and update their annual plan.
- **Education & Outreach Committee** Chelsea White-Brainard, East Multnomah SWCD
The committee has been working on updating the fact sheets, which are now available online. They have also developed BMPs which are available on line, and will be printing the fact sheets. If you want to get printed sheets, talk to Mitch Bixby.
- **Steering Committee** Michelle Delepine, West Multnomah SWCD
We haven't had a lot of meetings lately, but have instead been doing online work. The steering committee is working on a list of restoration/weed removal contractors in the Portland area. Multnomah County has one up, but this will be a more comprehensive list. The committee also edited the new online BMP documents. They've been doing behind the scenes Pull-Together planning as well. The Pull- Together will be held on January 10th at the McMenamins Kennedy School. A networking social will follow the conference. **Financial updates:** We are currently a little under water, so be looking for invoices and please let us know if you have any extra money to increase your contribution for the CWMA. Otherwise we will be sending invoices at the same amount as last year. Comment: PWB can pay a fee for services, but is not able to send a check. If there is a need which they are able to fill, please contact Angie Kimpo. If there is something you would like to see a committee work on, get in touch with the chairs.
- **Technical Committee** Mitch Bixby, City of Portland
The technical committee has developed the plant list. It is acting in support of other efforts in the CWMA, including reviewing the fact sheets and BMPs. They are also looking at the Garden Smart brochures. It is due for a reprint or an app, or perhaps be paired with another organization.

- **Working Group Updates**

All

The Garlic Mustard Working Group is meeting on November 9th in Portland. They will be sharing information across Oregon, Washington, Alaska and BC. They will be finalizing a garlic mustard BMP document and prioritizing survey areas. Information is sent in the Weeder and there is also a list serve.

Partner Updates

All

- Metro has been working on garlic mustard, knotweed, and restoration.
- The Stream Team at Clark Public Utilities started doing restoration on the ground to protect water quality. They started a tree planting program with employees, then branched out to include the community. They host an earth day volunteer planting, as well.
- Sound Native Plants has been working on restoration, invasive species control, and storm water management. They have a big project along the East Fork Lewis River. They began site prep last fall and will be planting this winter.
- Columbia Land Trust is involved with work along the river with gorse, knotweed, loosestrife, houndstongue, yellow flag iris, and Rush Skeletonweed.
- City of Portland BES is surveying the lower Columbia Slough looking for ludwigia. They found a large infestation near Smith and Bybee Lakes.

Class A and ED/RR Species in Clark County

Casey Gozart, Coordinator, Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board

- Bighead knapweed: was just found this year and treated. A property neighboring the infestation sells bulbs on the internet.
- False Brome: 2 known infestations, including 3800 acres at camp Bonneville, which they have been spraying 2-3 times a year.
- Garlic mustard: 6 infestations. 2 are very large and are being contained. They are considering asking the state to switch it to a B ranking. Or they are looking for more funding to treat it. There is approximately 150 acres on the Salmon Creek alone, though it's not a continuous infestation.
- Giant hogweed: they've eliminated many infestations, but have 3 current infestations. There is some at Washougal greenway at the bowling alley. Castor bean was also found on the greenway.
- Goatsrue: 1 site near Vancouver lake. No regrowth in 2017. Treated with Capstone
- Oblong (eggleaf) spurge: 10 infestations, 10 properties. There are probably more infestations. In most locations it was found in bark mulch which has been down for a couple of years, so there is concern about bark mulch infestation.
- Ricefield Bulrush: 2 infestations: 2 properties. They have dedicated volunteers to pull this plant.
- Milk thistle: 1500 plants. Above Salmon Creek on private property.
- Slenderflower thistle: 8 infestations. Reduced to hand pulling along roadsides.

Eradicated:

- Italian thistle!!! Haven't seen it since 2006.
- Kudzu: 1 infestation not found since 2003.
- Yellow starthistle is eradicated, as well.

Next General Meeting

March 14th 2018

Clackamas County