



Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Committee Minutes

11:30-12:30

1/27/2015

Hood River Taqueria

1210 13th Street

Jordan: The County Weed Manager for Hood River County has vacated his position and will not be replaced. His supervisor should be at the CGCWMA meeting today. Jordan would like to let him know that the CWMA feels it is very important to have a weed person at the county level. Sam mentions economics as an important reason to keep a weed manager on staff. The committee discussed strategies for encouraging replacement of the position. Marty suggested getting the NPSO to chime in. Sam suggested opening dialogue with ODOT or other contract holders. Sam suggest HRSWCD fill the void in weed management for the county. Jordan says the SWCD is already pressed for time.

Emily: Suggests having a symposium on weed management where members share treatment methods and Best Management Practices for various weeds. It would be a venue for sharing new information and new weeds.

Lucas prefers paper BMP's and suggests having weed management/BMP discussions as part of the general meeting.

Survey results suggest a need for BMP's.

Sam suggests using King County as a template for creating BMP's and posting online.

Coordinator work ideas:

The group discusses the expressed need by the CWMA for BMP's for various weeds species.

- Emily suggests holding a symposium with an open format where land managers discuss various treatment methods and chemicals.
- Sarah suggests having BMP's in printable format on the website.
- Jordan suggests asking the general meeting about their thoughts on the best format for presenting BMP's.
- Sam suggests writing up drafts of BMP's and opening them to the group for editing and suggestions. Then having the symposium based on the findings.

The group discussed putting weed calendars online

- Suggestions were made to find the weed calendars which are already available- King County, Vern, Mitch are resources to check in to.

The group then discussed the role of the coordinator in conducting public outreach.

- Jordan suggested that the role of the coordinator was not to teach the classes, but to set up the events and write up the grant proposals.
- The group agrees that outreach events are a top priority for the CWMA, according to the survey and individual experiences.
 - * Sam is looking for low-hanging fruits with interest from partner organizations
 - * Sam mentions that Julie Combs from PNW-IPC is looking for places to hold Weed Watchers training classes. Setting up weed classes may be an easy task for the coordinator. She also provides training for the horticulture industry.
- Jordan suggests applying for grant proposals: Pulling Together Initiative due in May. She suggests capacity building or on-the-ground projects.
 - * Sarah: look into PTI and come up with project suggestions.
 - * Sam suggests developing factsheets for the CWMA with shared messaging.
 - * Marty suggests putting together a pollinator habitat native seed packet.
 - * Emily suggests reminding people to keep their data updated.
 - ♦ Sam suggests offering iMap training to members.
 - ♦ Suggestion to teach EDD Maps apps to Weed Watchers training classes. Get an
 - ♦ Sarah will start by working on websites and outreach, and develop a project list.
 - ♦ Pull-together is on same day as next steering meeting. She will create a doodle poll to find time for the next committee meeting.

The Steering Committee discussed the possible role of the Education and Outreach Committee if it is formed. They could play a pivotal role in planning for a symposium or creating BMP's.

Discussion turned to leading the General Meeting today. A decision was made to hold a vote today for Steering Committee members, and to ratify the Management Plan. Agreement was reached: the first term of the Steering members will be 1 year, of chairs will be 2 (in order to stagger steering member elections). Terms will be 2 years long on the future.

Next Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Committee Meeting

11:30-12:30

2/24/2015