



## Columbia Gorge CWMA General Meeting

1:00-3:00 pm 3/27/18

OSU Extension Office

2990 Experiment Station Drive, Hood River 97031

### Attendees:

Beth Meyers-Shenai, ODA

Carolyn Wright, WA DNR

Christina Mead, USFS MTH

Dan Son, Lower Deschutes CWMA

Emily Stevenson, Skamania

Jennifer DeShong USFS GP

Kate Conley, Columbia Land Trust

Katie Santini, USDA FS CRGNSA

Keyna Bugner, WA DNR

Marty Hudson, Klickitat

Mika Barrett, Friends of the Gorge

Sarah Hamilton, Columbia Gorge CWMA

### Steering Committee Update

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- **The Steering committee is looking for new members and more participation.**
- The CWMA Info Packet for partners and potential funders is now available. It includes:
  - 2018 CWMA Calendar
  - 2017 CWMA Annual Report
  - CWMA Management Plan
  - CWMA MOU
  - CWMA Plant List

### Education & Outreach Committee Update

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- The Education & Outreach committee has been working on the upcoming events, including the Field Day and the Boot Brush Kick-Off.

### Upcoming Events

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- The Boot Brush Kick-Off is April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Stop the Invasion Training is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup>. It will cap out at 75 attendees. An announcement will be sent soon. Please share the announcement with your social media and list serves. STI is free and open to everyone, and registration is up at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stop-the-invasion-weed-management-101-registration-44384651688>
- Grass Identification Field Class, May 29<sup>th</sup>, with Carolyn and Marty. At Columbia Hills, Wednesday, 10-2. Bring a sack Lunch. Meet at the upper parking lot at Dalles Mt. ranch. Sarah will apply for CEUs.

- Field Day at Trout Lake is scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup>

### 1:30 Past Events

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- The Invasive Species and Exotic Pests Workshop was a great success! We had nearly 140 attendees, more than ever before! Despite an issue with catering, the reviews were overall very positive. We will be planning it again for the Thursday of NISAW. We will ask for presentations this year. **Please consider stepping up to help plan ISEP.**

### 1:45 Roundtable Discussion: Where is the CWMA headed?

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#### Where do we see the CWMA in 5 years? How do we get there?

- We have been doing the farm bill projects: In 2012 we got the grant to do the trail surveys and put in boot brushes. Hood River SWCD ran and wrote the grant proposal through the CWMA.
- We put together the EDRR booklet. Do we want to keep going down this route? Or is there another path?

#### At our last meeting we discussed:

- Gap analysis
- Priority species projects or campaigns: Gorge Ivy Pull
- Priority list
- Mapping entire scenic area with partners and weed points.

#### Other ideas:

- Andrea Berkely discussed a possible shoreline project which could include multiple partners, perhaps the CWMA.
- Beth encourages us to get an Oregon State Weed Board grant from ODA, if we have a project which is already developed, but it must be on the ground control work.
- **Sarah will develop and send out the CWMA-wide survey. She will add the question *What are your challenges and how can the CWMA help to address them?***
- We should have more members participating, including Wasco, Underwood, BPA, ACE, ODOT, and WSDOT. Perhaps we could move the meetings and have different organizations plan them, in order to get more involvement.
- Goodies at the meetings

### 2:30 Partner Updates and Observations

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- Friends of the Gorge: Mika has focused on building the Public Land Stewardship program with the various partners. She has been visiting areas of the gorge to find places to host volunteer work parties to control invasives and restore areas. Friends of the Gorge are not involved in spray work, but are collaborating with EMSWCD to apply herbicides where needed.

They are surveying boot brushes to see what maintenance is needed, and possibly add more brushes.

They are also planning on starting a Plant Surveyor Volunteer Program to survey for EDRR and rare species. They have 20 volunteers that are botanically skilled that will be conducting the surveys. FOG is working to develop training programs for the volunteers. Weed surveys will be on both the Oregon and Washington sides of the river. Volunteers will adopt areas of the gorge to survey, and rare and invasive survey will be separate.

FOG is also developing their trailhead ambassadors programs, which will kick off during the Boot Brush Kick-Off. Last year, Trailhead Ambassadors mitigated car break-ins and provided supplemental water and education at trailheads. Volunteers will be at the Salmon River Trail, Cape Horn, Dog Mountain, and Latourell Falls during the Kick-Off. FOG will be providing training to ambassadors on April 7<sup>th</sup> in Cascade Locks, April 14<sup>th</sup> in Portland. About 30 people have signed up thus far.

- Andrew Frasier from PNW-IPC will be giving weed trainings in Sandy and elsewhere. It could be a good opportunity for the volunteers to receive training. Mika will contact Andrew about bringing the Friends of the Gorge crew leaders to these trainings.
- The Forest Service is potentially aminopyralid and new biocontrols to their arsenal.

ODA added 1 new weed: delta arrowhead, *Sagittaria platyphyllais* added to the A list. ODA also hosted successful weed forum on ludwigia and yellow floating heart. The forum had 6 talks and a lot of networking. If you are interested in getting the information from the forum, go to their website to find the talks. Brenda Gruell was there with recent ludwigia research. If you are interested in joining an invasive aquatics-only list serve, contact Beth. The next forum will be on rush skeletonweed in eastern Oregon in 2 years. The Oregon Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium is December 4-6 in Corvallis at OSU. Joel Price is the new biocontrol specialist at ODA. Beth is working on a weed mapper update with data through 2017. If you have data, send it to Beth. ODA recommends the Oregon Invasives Hotline for reporting infestations which need attention, while EDDMapS West is better for surveys.

- There is a planting party Saturday in Stevenson. For more info contact Emily.
- Marty has been working on star thistle on the Lyle Cherry Orchard Trail with FOG. On June 1<sup>st</sup> they are cohosting an invasive weed walk.

**3:00 End**

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## **Next General Meeting**

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**1-3 pm, August 28th 2018**

*Hood River Extension Service, 2990 Experiment Station Drive, Hood River, OR 97031*