



## Columbia Gorge CWMA General Meeting

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019, 1:00-3:00 pm**

Hood River Fire & EMS—Ty Taylor Fire Station (Leonard Hay Community Room)

1785 Meyer Parkway, Hood River, OR 97031

**Attendees:** Troy Abercrombie (WIN), Sam Leininger (CSWCD), John Geist (WA-DNR), Todd Pulzer (WA-DNR), Chris Aldassy (EMSWCD), Heather Hendrixson (HRSWCD), Kris Schaedel (HRSWCD), Kate Conley (CLT), Michael Schubert (OSP), Mason Scharfe (USACE), Carolyn Wright (WA-DNR), Evan Olson (USFS-GPNF), Jennifer DeShong (USFS-GPNF), Marty Hudson (Klickitat NWCB), Emily Stevenson (Skamania NWCB), Lucas Nipp (EMSWCD), Jeanette Burkhardt (Yakama Nation), Sarah Callaghan (USFS-CRGNCA), John Cowan (OPRD), Courtney Gattuso (CSWCD), Sara Woods (FOCG), Francis (FOCG), Angie Kimpo--teleconference (PWB)

### 1:00 Welcome & Introductions

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#### 1:05 Coordinator & CWMA Updates

*Courtney Gattuso*

- Courtney has been focusing the majority of her time on developing the 2019 CWMA Annual Report and updating our organizational documents, the Management Plan and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), to assist with our upcoming partner support request.
  - The current MOU is sun setting on December 31, 2019 and all current partners will need to sign the new MOU in order to continue support for the CWMA.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Invasive Species and Exotic Pest workshop is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>! Our Education & Outreach Committee has been brainstorming topics and speakers for the upcoming event. Lots of recertification credits will be available!

#### 1:15 CWMA Operating Plan—Partner Suggestions for 2020

*Courtney Gattuso*

- Courtney passes around an old version of our Operating Plan and asks the group if the document would be useful to partners.
- The group agreed that it is a useful document for our partners and would like to utilize it in the future.
- **ACTION:** Courtney will send around the Operating Plan to the listserv for edits and updates.

#### 1:20 Funding and MOU Signature Ask

*Sam Leininger*

- Sam calls for new sponsors to fund and support the CWMA in the coming year.
- He mentions the official Sponsor Ask will get sent to the listserv in the next couple weeks.

- To allow for new participation on our Steering Committee, the CWMA will start holding “official” elections each fall. Courtney announces the available positions and asks the group if there’s any outside interest to serve on our Steering Committee.
  - Angie showed interest if no one else if interested in serving.
- All current Steering members are still interested in serving in their roles for the coming year and were re-elected for 2020!
  - Emily and Marty – WA Representatives
  - Christina and Lucas – OR Representatives
  - Education and Outreach Committee will elect their new Chair at the next meeting; Steering will elect new Co-Chairs at the next Steering meeting.

- **Troy Abercrombie—Western Invasives Network**
  - Troy, our new WIN Coordinator, introduces himself to the group.
  - WIN is the umbrella organization that oversees the CWMAs in the region.
  - CGCWMA and 4CCWMA have set the bar pretty high for CWMAs and he hopes to see encourage other CWMAs to implement our practices.
- **John and Todd—WA Department of Natural Resources**
  - WADNR staff is mainly focuses on invasive spartina sp., knotweed, and flowering rush for weed control.
- **Chris Aldassy—East Multnomah SWCD**
  - Working on Sandy River knotweed treatments and fall garlic mustard work.
  - They are finding more false brome in the Sandy Basin.
  - Treating small EDRR patches--goatsrue (one population) and impatiens bicolor (two populations found in North America, one in Corbett)
  - Lots of blackberry in the burn area!
- **Sarah Callaghan—USFS-CRGNSA**
  - Been doing some restoration work with Skamania county on butterfly bush.
  - CWMA Field Day was successful--Dominic Maze pointed out some rare plants and new invasives in the burn area, including invasive cherry tree.
  - FOCG Stewardship Program has been doing ton of work in the burn area!
- **Heather and Kris—Hood River SWCD**
  - Puncturevine control is the main focus this time of year.
  - They received 3 years of funding for garlic mustard work through retained receipts!
- **Jeanette Burkhardt—Yakama Nation**
  - Restoration project at mouth of White Salmon—sediment came done from dam breech, vegetation is coming back, finding false indigo and other weeds like rush skeletonweed and cereal ryegrass is a new one (under monitoring).

- Northwest Park upstream on White Salmon River—cabin owners want to be stewards! Regular weed pull interest, want to put up interpretive signage and bootbrushes at the park.
- Working on Dyer’s greenwood control, only one population known in WA.
- Tree of heaven proposal with PSU students, working with Shawna Bautista to gather data to hopefully fund a tree of heaven removal project—encourages the group to assist and join their efforts.
- **Sara and Francis—Friends of the Columbia Gorge**
  - Working on yellow starthistle with Marty at Klickitat.
  - Continuing blackberry removal and bull frog removal at their Turtle Haven preserve.
- **Angie Kimpo—Portland Water Bureau**
  - She is concerned about mountain bikers as weed vectors along the Sandy Ridge Bike Trail System—just south of the Bull Run Watershed.
- **Kate Conley—Columbia Land Trust**
  - Rush skeletonweed control in The Dalles is really concerning; might need to reach out to Wasco County folks, asks the group for suggestions and or coordination efforts.
  - Emily with Skamania has been spraying indigo bush on Pierce Island; it’s been a coordinated effort with a grant from WSDA to do treatments, making good progress.
- **Mike Schubert—Oregon State Parks**
  - Primary focus areas are Cascade Locks and The Dalles.
  - Work with contractors to do weed control efforts, blackberry work at a lot of their parks, focusing on high use recreation areas.
  - They have spent a lot of funding on tree of heaven management and will continue to do so.
- **Mason Scharfe –US Army Corps of Engineers (Bonneville)**
  - Indigo bush work with Skamania County at Bonneville Dam.
  - Knapweed populations have been knocked way down by Skamania County.
  - Removed 6 puncturevine plants at the Dam recently.
- **Evan Olson—USFS Mt. Adams/Gifford Pinchot**
  - Spring and summer control work with Jennifer, working on both geraniums on Lewis River, along with thorough surveys of geraniums.
  - Found a patch of Ranunculus and other yard weeds popping up in Gifford Pinchot NF.
- **Jennifer DeShong—USFS Gifford Pinchot National Forest**
  - Carol Chandler recently retired; there hasn’t been anyone to “coordinate” things.
  - Jennifer plans to retire herself in December, trying to work out those details.
- **Marty Hudson—Klickitat County NWCB**
  - Lowest part of flowering rush population is above John Day Dam—continuing to treat it, but it’s not looking great.
  - Puncturevine control has seemed pretty effective.
  - Been working with Dirt Huggers on decontamination, lots of weeds are popping up from soil hauls and deliveries.

- **Emily Stevenson—Skamania County NWCB**
  - Thanks all of our partners for the job security and hiring her crew to perform treatments!
- **Sam Leininger—Clackamas SWCD**
  - Current District Manager is stepping down—will need to look for new candidates beginning of January 2020.
  - WeedWise team is doing a lot of knotweed control work this fall.
  - The District is moving to a new location in Beavercreek, OR.
  - Been finding more false brome in the powerline corridors, keep eye out.
- **John Cowan—Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**
  - Shout out to FOCG for all of their volunteer work and EMSWCD for all of their weed control efforts.
  - Columbia Gorge has been rejoined in management and they can work together now.

**3:00 End—Head to Double Mountain Brewery**

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**3:15 Pizza party at Double Mountain Brewery!**

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8 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Hood River, OR 97031

## **Next General Meeting**

***January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020; 1:00pm-3:00pm***

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