



Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Committee Meeting

March 25th 2020; 11:30am-12:30pm

Teleconference

Attendees: Courtney Gattuso (CSWCD), Emily Stevenson (Skamania County), Mika Barrett (Friends of the Columbia Gorge), Lucas Nipp (EMSWCD), Marty Hudson (Klickitat NWCB), Christina (USFS-Mt. Hood NF), Troy Abercrombie (WIN)

11:30 Welcome

11:35 CWMA Strategy for COVID-19

All

- Check-in about the current coronavirus outbreak
- Discuss potential operational changes for CWMA and how to adapt
 - During these remote times, the CWMA will be operating solely over teleconference platforms and email discussions to minimize the impact of COVID-19.
 - General Meeting – How to handle our first virtual meeting?
 - To ensure the smooth flow of teleconference meeting with lots of attendees, Steering suggests calling on partners during partner updates to minimize ‘over talking’.
 - Round robin introductions in the beginning of the meeting would be helpful to identify everyone beforehand.
 - Oregon and Washington State Parks will be closed by the end of the week.
 - This will affect our annual Boot Brush Kick-Off and Field Day events.
 - Friends of the Columbia Gorge may cancel volunteer events through end of April.
 - All recreational hiking is closed in Skamania County.
 - Most Steering members are working remotely, most still carrying on fieldwork.

11:45 Website Prioritization Strategy

All

- The 4-County CWMA will be hiring a contractor to revamp their website; do we want to join their efforts?
 - The Steering Committee would like to see the scope of work before making any commitments.
 - **ACTION:** Courtney will keep Steering in the loop with the directions that 4CCWMA take with their website redesign RFP. She will send them the RFP to review before deciding.

12:00 Final Call for MOU Signatures

All

- Update the current list of partners and send out as a 'final call' for signatures.
- Should we put this task on hold until things smooth out?
 - The group decided it's best to put the MOU outreach effort on hold until the COVID-19 crisis smooths out.
 - Every partner is in a very different situation, and we do not want to overwhelm anyone.
 - **ACTION:** Courtney will add Klickitat County NWCB and WA State Noxious Weed Control Board hard copy signature pages to our electronic collection.

12:15 ISEP & Future Events (*if time allows*)

All

- Brief ISEP recap
 - Courtney sent a survey out to the ISEP attendees and we received great responses overall! Next year will be the 10th Annual, so we have to make it GOOD!
 - The group discusses the potential of having it at another venue, since our group is expanding and outgrowing the current venue at Hegewald Center.
 - There will be more discussion about the event at the Education & Outreach Committee meeting.

12:30 End

Next Steering Committee Meeting (*tentative*)

April 22nd 2020, 1:00pm-3:00pm

Teleconference