



## Columbia Gorge CWMA General Meeting

January 27<sup>th</sup> 2021; 1:00pm-3:00pm

Teleconference (via GoToMeeting)

**Attendees:** Sam Leininger (CSWCD), Courtney Gattuso (CSWCD), Lucas Nipp (EMSWCD), Christina Mead (USFS), Troy Abercrombie (WIN), Mika Barrett (FOCG), Marty Hudson (KCNWCB), Sanoë Keliinai (CLT), Carol Black (WSU), Cathy McQueeney (CSWCD), Kris Schaedel (HRSWCD), Cyndi Soliz (SCNWCP), Heather Hendrixson (HRSWCD), John Cowan (OPRD), Claire Addis (USACE), Kelly Wallis (TNC), Evan Olson (USFS), Chris Aldassy (EMSWCD), Frances Fischer (FOCG), Justin Cooley (CSWCD), Molly Jennings (WADNR), Kate Conley (CLT), Eric Kincaid (WA State Parks), Jen Langevin (TNC), Keyna Bugner (WADNR), Emily Stevenson (SCNWCP), Angie Kimpo (PWB), Marie Borucki (Hood River resident), Jeanette Burkhardt (YNCTB), Sara Woods (FOCG), Sarah Callaghan (USFS)

### 1:00 Welcome & Introductions

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Lucas Nipp (East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District)

### 1:10 The Art of Measuring Pesticides

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Carol Black (Washington State University)

- Here is [Carol's PowerPoint Presentation](#).

### 1:40 CWMA Updates

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All

- 2021 CWMA Election – Courtney Gattuso (Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District)
  - Courtney announces the open representative positions on the Steering Committee.
    - The Management Plan states that half of the Steering members will be voted upon during a General Meeting by CWMA signatories each year.
    - Currently have 5 open positions on to serve on our Steering Committee:
      - Oregon Representative – 2-year term; 2021- 2022
      - Washington Representative – 2-year term; 2021-2022
      - At-Large Representative – 1-year term; 2021
      - At-Large Representative – 2-year term; 2021-2022
      - Education & Outreach Committee Chair (2-year term; 2021-2022) – this position will be voted upon at our Ed & Out Meeting following the General meeting.
  - Courtney distributed the CWMA ballot with the nominated candidates for each position and had CWMA member vote in their new representatives.

- The results show that Emily Stevenson will be the Washington Representative, Kate Conley (CLT) will be the 1-year At Large Representative, Angie Kimpo (PWB) will be the Oregon Representative, and Christina Mead will be the 2-year At-Large Representative!
- Invasive Species & Exotic Pest Workshop – *Emily Stevenson (Skamania County)*
  - The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Invasive Species & Exotic Pest Workshop is scheduled for February 25<sup>th</sup> as a webinar conference.
  - We have a great lineup of speakers from beyond the Columbia Gorge boundaries. Marty will be giving his crowd-pleasing invasives Kahoot quiz.
  - It is FREE!
  - [Registration is open!](#)
    - Currently have 155 registrants signed up.
  - Event agenda and more info: [columbiagorgecwma.org/2021-isepworkshop](http://columbiagorgecwma.org/2021-isepworkshop)

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## 2:00 Partner Discussion

All

- Happy New Year! Let's discuss our plans for 2021 and any new changes/updates within our organizations.
- Partners:
  - USFS
    - Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
      - Forest Supervisor and Natural Resources Staff Officer both just retired, lots of changes in management, in the process of clarifying CRGNSA Natural Resources Plan, a month out from official signatures, feel good about work plan for the year, trying to get funding to our partners, taking cautious with partners and contractors in the field, juggling to make it through.
    - Gifford Pinchot NF/Mt. Adams
      - Evan is tightening up their quarry program, Sarah had a seasonal put together a list of quarries in the area, back on duty mid-March.
    - Mt. Hood NF
      - Christina – Sarah covered region 6 pretty well regarding budget and COVID, Sarah Hall is moving to sunny New Mexico, took another position with USFS, fire recovery efforts, spending a lot of time redeveloping plan for management moving forward, hope to get more funding for weed efforts.
  - The Nature Conservancy
    - Getting our season ready, COVID has reduced staff numbers cause of seasonal housing, working with Sarah Callaghan getting neighbors property sprayed for invasive grass at Tom McCall Preserve, have tall oat grass, interested in treatment suggestions.
  - EMSWCD
    - Worried about crew work, moved into winter and was trying to figure out the breaking point—if there was going to be any COVID spikes or anything, crew work is fairly shielded from COVID, mobilization is a pain bringing a lot of vehicles, staying pretty safe from working outside, been doing a lot of winter weed work on clematis and ivy, a little shiny geranium and scotch broom work near Bull Run, getting agreements lined up.

- HRSWCD
  - Same garlic mustard treatments plan, COVID screwed up things last year, working with Ash Creek, been tending to technical assistance, asks the group about jimson weed, landowner saw it. It's an ornamental that people plant some times, but it is toxic.
- CSWCD
  - Worked with Sarah on ETART planning, Lolo pass and PH work will continue, lots of end of the year reporting, planning for the year ahead, curious about contractor prices due to COVID sanitation/mobilization, new RFP will be open for bids next year, hired a new District Manager in December, his name is Chris Lapp from US Fish and Wildlife.
- Portland Water Bureau
  - Continuing to fight off weeds in the Bull Run Watershed, treating a lot of shiny geranium and false brome, working with Troy on a regional mountain bike trails outreach project, focusing on Powell Butte, Sandy Ridge, etc. Providing outreach signs and materials for mountain bikers and trail crews.
- Columbia Land Trust
  - Gearing up for treatments, cereal rye grass is an issue on the roadsides, been doing a winter glyphosate treatment, would like grass specific herbicide recommendations, rush skeleton grass is a huge issue, might be a good CWMA support project, just did treatments on tree of heaven, drilled and injected treatments, yellow flag iris control--hired Ash Creek for the work, they were great, issues with COVID and getting crews--did pay extra for mobilization during COVID, some of crews had to fireproof, but Ash Creek was able to get crews in a pinch, Sanoe is also on the call—she was hired as a Stewardship Assistant, hiring 2 new Stewardship Assistants and a Natural Resources Manager on the coast.
- Skamania County
  - Business as usual, had crews all last summer, last winter her and Cyndi started basal bark treatments, scotch broom and spurge laurel, 3<sup>rd</sup> season trial on Italian arum, using a couple different herbicides on it, will pass it over to the group.
- Klickitat County
  - Nothing really special to report. We have a new roadside sprayer but our roadside spray person retired so I will likely have to run it for the short term. I am the lead for vegetation management for all of the county roads here.
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
  - More treatments of cereal rye and rush skeleton weed, figuring highest density areas, treatments of ventenata, continuing treatments of reed canarygrass—been mowing, using weed cloths, and planting, stem injector for tree of heaven, first round of that, had a good season despite COVID
- Oregon State Parks
  - Rough year as far as getting work done, lottery funds took a huge hit, seeing some recovery, getting insurance from executive committee that funding is approving more than expected, gave money EMSWCD to do work for them, got a ton of spraying done at Dabney State Park, took a hit on garlic mustard at John Yeon—fire precautions and tricky access, working in the next couple month with FOCG on crew work, the challenges continue, John Yeon and

Dabney are keystone projects, working on shiny geranium, Dabney has a ton of it, crews are reluctant to take it on due to budget and work involved.

- Yakama Nation
  - Large pending sale of forest lands that affects both sides of the Gorge—timber lands up to 100,000 acres, company is planning on selling land—substantial management changes depending on who purchases the land, wanted to get it on everyone’s radars, been working on a project with Underwood Conservation District and local school district new White Salmon—working on wetland buffer near the school that has been neglected for some time, got Marty out there to identify weed issues from dumping fill, trying to reseed and replant upper wetland buffers, volunteer opportunities will be available to help with the project, looking to get signage out there.
- Washington State Parks
  - Focusing on tree of heaven treatments.
- US Army Corp of Engineers
  - Cooperative agreement for herbicide application with ODA, lost ability to use checks, agreement with ODA will allow for subcontract work, getting more spraying done, handpulling is done, but it will be easier to have herbicide applications performed.
- WIN
  - Working with Angie and other partners, getting things installed, idea came about at a CGCWMA meeting in 2019, working on fire recovery stuff, trying to be a facilitator to connect partners, vice chair of OISC--working on a lot of things, including a legislative primer—will be shared with legislative officials, showing the different regions and programs and the invasive threats in each area, lots of time and effort put into it.

**3:00 End**

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## **Next CWMA General Meeting**

*March 24<sup>th</sup> 2021, 1:00pm-3:00pm*

*Teleconference*