

State Noxious Weed Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 17, 2011
The Nature Conservancy Office, 2424 Spruce St., Boulder, Colo.

FINAL MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Susan Panjabi @ 9:45 a.m.

Members in Attendance: Karen Scopel, Terri Schultz, Don Hajar, Ken Harper, Steve Anthony, Jay Jutten, Susan Panjabi, Fred Midcap, Randy Malcom, Scott Nissen, Sheila Grother (via telephone)

Guests: Hal Pierce, Susan Gray (USFS)

Members excused: Susan Johnson, Ben Duke, Jimmy Dunn, Phyllis Lake

Staff Present: - Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) representatives: Steve Ryder, Patty York, Eric Lane, Maurina Paradise

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Susan Panjabi welcomed everyone and roundtable introductions followed.
2. Review Agenda- call for additions/corrections
 - a. no changes requested
3. Review minutes from last meeting- call for additions, corrections, vote
 - a. There were 5 changes to the draft minutes
 - b. Karen moved to approve the minutes with the changes, Terri seconded, seeing no additional discussion went to vote, all in favor, motion carries.
4. Follow up items
 - a. Chufa/yellow nutsedge letter
 - i. Discussion on who the letter should come from (CDA vs. the Committee), and who the letter should go to. Also discussed the need to coordinate with other divisions within CDA. Terri proposed that the letter go out "at the request of the Weed Advisory Committee the CDA is sending out this letter"....
 - ii. Don moved to send out letter with the intent discussed (with option to change as needed) to send out to as many associations and government entities as needed; Karen S. seconded motion; seeing no discussion motion went to vote, all in favor, motion carries.
 - b. All spurge alert to green industry
 - i. Additional discussion of doing an article in an industry newsletter or magazine or sending a letter.
 - ii. Scott moved to write a draft letter coming from CDA to people at CSU and Plants Select, Denver Botanic Gardens, CNGA (Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association) (and a listserve?) suggesting the importation and promotion of non-native spurges (and all non-native species in general) should be evaluated due increasing number of escapees (toxic nature) as well as having an article; Don

seconded, seeing no discussion motion went to vote, all in favor, motion carries.
Patty York volunteered to write the letter, Scott will co-author.

- c. Plant Select program
 - i. Steve will report back to next meeting regarding Denver Botanic Gardens Plant development of assessment procedure, what plants they are testing and the results.
- d. Priority management plans for 2012
 - i. Discussion of adding Canada thistle to management plans for 2012
 - ii. Science sub-committee will assess feasibility of this and bring recommendation to next meeting
- e. Committee Purpose
 - i. Statute was read followed by discussion
- 5. Subcommittee reports
 - a. Site Led
 - i. Sub-committee goal is focusing on where significant environmental and agriculture lands occur and how to protect them from noxious weed invasions. How to pick one ranch/ farm over another is difficult.
 - ii. Develop an alert system so that if a noxious weed population (new) is found/ reported near these significant areas then the land manager is notified
 - iii. Subcommittee is tasked with determining what the early alert system would look like and how it would work
 - b. Science
 - i. New plant assessment forms ; CSU has funding for 10 new assessments
 - 1. Yellow flag iris, garlic mustard, and myrtle spurge are being updated by CSU. , Committee decided also doing hoary alyssum, field scabiosa, white horehound, and squarrose knapweed (for a total of 8 with 2 to decide on later based on Plants Select list)
 - 2. need complete list of all species that have been evaluated with determinations
→Goal: determine which plants on the nox weed list need to have an assessment on file; does it make sense that all List A, B, C have an assessment or instead focus on Plant Select type upcoming issues....???
 - c. Funding and Policy
 - i. Real estate disclosure form; the real estate commission looked at the form (not the best form) the form has changed but is not quite what we wanted. Steve is attempting to communicate with commission but has not had luck. Steve will email Committee final result of Real Estate Commission; will be for seller to fill out (yes, no, I don't know) will apply to all real estate transactions; would go into effect for 2012 (unsure on this point)
 - ii. 1 or 2 bills being proposed by CWMA (haven't seen them); they are in the works; when/if Steve sees the proposed legislation he will share with the committee (via email)
 - 1. funding – check off for state tax forms
 - 2. weed free gravel?
 - d. Communication & Education report by Karen
 - i. Communication/ awareness building is needed; general populace to understand importance of weed management; are we reaching them? How to we keep this

- issue in front of people? Why is nox weed management important to people as a recreationist landowner, etc...
- ii. Funding issue? How do we get the message out? What tools can we support the use of? Can we as a group support a request to Steve to request use of social media or other electronic media? K 12 outreach? Work with larger groups? (CWMA) Grant distribution priorities? Educational component required
 - iii. Targeted information for specific landowners (e.g. what plant is on your land and what to do with it)
 - iv. How do we encourage more participation from private landowners? Regulation/punishment for failure to comply (enforcement)
 - v. Reporting from CDA? Mapping and population component
- e. EDRR report by Patty York
- i. Further develop List A blog regarding how to ID species what to do with them (video's) with "how to volunteer" information
 - ii. Develop what species should we look at coming from other states? Western Weed Coordinating Committee (Steve member of) ensures that they all have each other's information to know what is coming and how far away it is
6. Correcting scientific names of plants on noxious weed list/s
- a. ITIS plants database site holds official scientific names of plant species; 6 species currently listed with unacceptable names; the AG cares only that we use the most commonly accepted name and use that one
 - b. Federal nomenclature ; Susan Panjabi recommends that both Weber and Whitman AND Plants database name;
 - i. Susan recommends that we use Plants Database name and specifically note which nomenclature using; there is some risk of someone keying out a plant and not realizing that they have a noxious weed so additionally list "old"/ synonyms
 - ii. CDA will need to communicate any changes to all weed management programs (county, extension offices, etc...)
7. Properties with organic certification and noxious weed control
- a. Can pull a chunk of land out of organic certification to address weed w/ herbicide; downside is that any land taken out there is then a 36 month time period before organic again
 - b. Are any species that only herbicide is acceptable use, no mechanical?
 - c. With List A species what recourse for land owners that are not truly making an effort? Steve suggested: If certifying organic, what % of land is noxious weed before certifying?
 - d. County attorney's getting involved
 - e. **Action:** Organic certification process? What kind of survey is done before certification? Either Casey or Crystal will join next meeting and/or Steve R. will report (Add to agenda for next meeting)
8. Myrtle spurge – additional discussion/letter from weed manager/s
- a. How do we take public input?
 - i. Steve recommends that committee should not do any action in same meeting where public input is receive but instead save it for following meeting or two (Steve handed out to committee members letter from Laurie Deiter with Boulder and Kelly Uhing with Denver)

- b. Get more feedback from other weed managers on this species as well as in the future before making decision regarding changing status of species.
 - c. Don made a recommendation: table this until the next meeting and then vote and decide to leave on List A or List B (next meeting agenda) ; Scott seconded motion; Don recalled motion before a vote
 - d. Promote a “purge the spurge” day; youth conservation corps or America Corps to help
 - e. Pretty easy to control mechanically; Scott (CSU) has database on trials for controlling spurge
 - f. Terri moved to reconsider January decision to leave on list A; Susan Panjabi. Seconded motion, motion went to vote; 7 (for) to 4 (against); result: Committee rescinds earlier decision and committee recommends that Myrtle spurge remain a List A species
9. State weed coordinator update
- a. CDA/ Steve submitted comments on the proposed USFS Invasive Species policy; provided an ideal vision on how the state would work with forest service in Colorado; to build a model of state / federal working together to address noxious weed problems across boundaries
 - b. Weed grants are all out; and will soon be reimbursing CDs and county programs for work done; finally got Forest Service grant signed August 4th; extending grants though next season; only 5% cut in funding from previous grant
 - c. Rule has been submitted will be made public August 25th; administrative / public hearing September 26th at 2 p.m. can a committee member attend?
 - d. Real estate already talked
 - e. Blue Haze (leafy spurge look-alike); DPI(?) found for sale at a Denver nursery (zone 7 to 9) so shouldn't survive winters in most of state; a sample was sent to CSU to determine any identification differences from leafy spurge
 - f. NRCS had questions regarding sweet clover in seed mix? CRP mix will be no more than 5% sweet clover
 - g. GIS quarterquad update:
 - i. Phase I will be a QQ update with online submission capacity (county weed managers and conservation districts); Goal of better information with less time
 - ii. Phase II to be able to go to finer level than quarter quad; be able to submit actual area; to be able to drill down to specific area(s) and see historical information
 - iii. Phase II also has the citizen-scientist component
10. EDRR Update
11. Spruce Gulch field trip – discussion of background, issues and logistics
12. Advisory Committee members leaving/ spots opening
- a. County official (Steve A.) county commissioner would be great
 - b. Ag producers (2)
 - c. Public Weed scientists (Scott)
 - d. Federal Weed manager
13. Steve Thank you to all folks that are leaving the committee.
14. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned by Vice-chair Karen Scopel at 3:10 p.m.