



## OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL MEETING

19 JULY 2011

Smith Memorial Student Union (SMU) RM 338 the Vanport Room—Portland State University  
1825 SW Broadway, Portland OR 97201

### MEETING MINUTES

#### **Attendance:**

**Council members:** Rian Hooff, Glenn Dolphin, Vanelle Peterson, Sam Chan, Helmuth Rogg (for Dan Hilburn), Jim Cathcart (for Rosemary Mannix), Rick Boatner, Mark Sytsma, Mark Hitchcox, John Cochran, Tania Siemens, Doug Daoust, Jeanne Standley, Vern Holm, Mark Porter, Nancy Willmes, Robyn Draheim, Lisa DeBruyckere

**Non-Council members:** Thea Hayes, Steve Wickham, Ann Ferguson, Angela Strecker, Craig Rowland, Linda Hardison, Steve Buttrick, Paul Heimowitz, Tim Butler, Damon Runberg

**1. PNWER meeting July 20, 2011**—Eric Anderson and Mark Sytsma are co-chairs of the invasive species working group. There are over 50 people registered for the invasive species conference portion of PNWER, and we were able to help provide \$5,000 in travel support for Council members from other states and Canadian provinces because of the USDA-APHIS firewood grant. Mark Sytsma walked through the PNWER invasive species conference agenda.

#### **2. Legislation**

- **HB 2122** - firewood; began rulemaking process by establishing a committee comprised of industry reps, legislators, and government officials;
- **HB 3121** - lowered the fine for not having in possession an AIS permit to \$30 (bill started out to eliminate the permit, and because of outreach and education, the bill morphed during session to reduce the fine from \$50 to \$30); Oregon Marine Board will be conducting a 30-day public comment period on amended rules;
- **HB 3358** - noxious weed bill provides the structure to fund county weed programs (no money attached at this point, but it provides the foundation); will need to go into rulemaking this fall to describe criteria and sideboards on funding program; will need temporary rules to test it this summer - there's a budget note on this bill to move the authority from ODFW to the Marine Board;
- **SB 81** - DEQ will hire an additional 0.5 FTE in 2012 (hopes that the \$70 fee created by this legislation can be raised over time to cover a full FTE); it is no longer a legislative requirement to have an AIS shipping task force, so DEQ can form an advisory group—another option from Senator Dingfelder is for the OISC to have a committee dedicated to shipping transport issues (maritime industry stakeholders would need to become a part of the OISC Advisory Committee)—it was noted that the individuals might be more comfortable with a committee at DEQ;
- **HB 342** - extends money from lottery dollars to parks and watersheds - some of the those funds that went directly to state agencies are no longer funneled that way – these agencies

will need to enter into partnership agreements with OWEB; the bill essentially excludes direct funding of lottery dollars to state agencies.

**3. Meeting minutes** – There were 16 votes in favor of approving the meeting minutes from the February 2011 meeting – no votes against.

**4. Old Business** –

**a. Task force advisory group for Arundo**—There was discussion about what the group should do to bring recommendations to the Council. Concern was expressed that because *Arundo* is a known invasive species, the Council should have a voice in the issue (versus being silent). It was noted that a steering committee has been formed (Hermiston Experimental Station—Phil Hamm is coordinating) that includes PGE, Bill Hansell (weed board and Umatilla County, Tim Butler, Carol Mallory-Smith at OSU and others (anyone that is interested in being on the committee can be on it). A motion was made (Sytsma), seconded (Chan), and approved (unanimous votes in favor) for Vanelle to chair the OISC advisory group, and Vanelle volunteered to serve as the OISC representative on the *Arundo* steering committee (Lisa and John will serve as backups if Vanelle can't make a steering committee meeting). It was also decided that OISC will meet with the OR Noxious Weed Board in September in Boardman in part to continue the discussion on *Arundo*.

The OISC advisory group could develop bullet points for everyone on the Council to speak on behalf of the Council on this issue. The \$1 million bond (posted by PGE to cover the costs of *Arundo* eradication should it escape the growing plots) was not raised.

**5. OSIC Budget**—OISC Coordinator funding - ODA can no longer be the vehicle for securing lottery dollars for OISC. It was suggested the Council work with the SWCDs and watershed councils and then discuss the need for funding with the OWEB board. It was also suggested that OWEB might become an ex-officio member of the Council. Talk with SWCDs and watershed councils and then board. Continue to add percentage of grant proposal requests for OISC Coordinator. Glenn would be willing to help with employees of SWCDs. We need to figure out what actually happened. Get it back in, but figure out why it happened. Tom O'Brien is the Exec Director.

**6. iMapInvasives**—Lindsey Wise from the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center walked the Council through iMapInvasives and how it functions. ACTION ITEMS: As a result of her presentation and interaction with the Council, Lindsey will be adding a field for treatment, ODA will receive email alerts for State A listed species and new species, and Lindsey will check on whether or not a drop down list exists for Idaho plant species.

**7. AIS Boat Inspection Program Update**—The boat inspection program has received a lot of attention lately. Glenn put together a work group to develop an Oregon Park Ranger Information Guide for the program. The AIS program is on track with last year for permit sales - 50,000 permits sold. The non-motorized boating community is weather dependent (versus motorized boating community). Marine Board gives direction to law enforcement officers re: whether to issue a citation or a warning. Latest report - 197 warnings and 37 citations this year (Lane, Clackamas, and Willamette Valley). Non-resident motorized boats - 97 warnings and 65 citations (most of the citations on Lake Owyhee). Awareness is increasing among non-motorized boaters. ODOT is installing 2nd batch of highway signs this summer (they erected 10 last summer and will be erecting 9 this summer). 4 inspection teams this year have done 900 inspections. They did one hot wash for zebra mussels that

a California inspection station missed. They also conducted 3 level one trainings in Oregon. The program received good media coverage on inspection stations this year, and there will be inspection stations on 101 by a former Central Point boat inspection team member.

8. **EDRR summit**—Background information on the genesis of the summit and the work of the core group was presented. The essence of EDRR is finding new invasive species and jumping on it immediately. The summit the first week of December 2011 will help galvanize what Oregon is trying to do at a local level and align it at the state level to send a unified message. We've seen a lot of scales of EDRR (local watersheds, weed management areas, etc.); EDRR can work at a lot of scales. To have a state-based program, we need good definitions of what a state-based system is centered around—counties. The CWMA's are poised to leverage existing partnerships and need to be a big partner in this effort. County Weed Control Districts are important as well, and the Council discussed the strategy to outreach to people to get to the summit. Goal is to get a cross-section of individuals attending the meeting. There was a suggestion to consider writing a grant proposal to obtain some funding to support travel to the summit. Another suggested included hosting a legislative panel. It was noted that Oregon county weed people are working on a template on what a county weed program looks like—rulemaking process that ODA begins working on this fall will align with their effort. Make the messaging clear to show benefit - what will this do people on the ground? Keep in mind that some counties are not part of the larger organization - and they're not all necessarily on the East Side. **ACTION ITEM: The USFS offered to add \$10,000 to the ODA grant for the OISC to provide travel support for people attending the summit.**

9. **National Sea Grant Law Center Project**—Asks the question about regulatory and outreach strategies for aquatic invasive species in Oregon. A description of the specific, measurable outcomes and approaches to complete the grant were discussed. The practice of engine back flushing and coastal focus groups was added to the proposal outcomes to understand how to best approach the issue of engine back flushing. NSGLC is also working with state attorney generals (possible connection). A possible connection with PSFMC watercraft inspection stations. Federal enforcement and the Lacey Act - Oregon law enforcement folks from USFWS might be available.

10. **Oregon Flora Project**—OFP is preparing a plant identification manual in the state - the vascular plants that grow outside of cultivation in the state of Oregon. Last manual was written 50 years ago. We have new plants, ones that have been extirpated, etc. We need one comprehensive resource so that we know when a plant is defined, we're talking about the same thing. <http://oregonflora.org>; paper book and online resources. Four key features: (1) checklist provides nomenclatural framework (2) atlas creates customized distribution maps (3) photo gallery presents images of each taxon and (4) flora allows identification of all Oregon plants. We can share any synchronize data. Oregon Flora Project can share data with Weedmapper. Online feature will come out a year or two in advance of the book, which is scheduled to be published in 2015. Project to further define exotic taxa may be of interest to the Council.

11. **Roundtables** (in addition to the printed summaries that were distributed, the following was discussed):

- Arundo - ODA developed a control area order for risk mitigation. 80 acres have been planted in 4 different locations. Three of the four fields aren't doing well - lots of weeds. All on

private land except for Hermiston Experiment Station.

- Tania Siemens was recognized for the work she has done for The Nature Conservancy (EDRR networks at county level -- developing guidelines, process, etc.) - presented Tania with a framed print).
- ODFW - Wildlife Rehabilitation Rules - illegal to release any prohibited species. Wildlife Control Operators cannot release animals on site - they have to be euthanized. Pet trade - news release generated a lot of interest that brought in a lot of turtles; use Zoological guidelines for euthanasia.
- BLM - completed EIS for herbicide use - doing 9 EAs that will allow up to 17 herbicides for eastern Oregon and 14 herbicides for western Oregon. Will be able to use herbicides for purposes other than noxious weeds. EAs will be completed in June of 2012. Are doing a lot of data collection electronically (NISMS) - will retire state weed database.
- NWMP - just put together a new CWMA in Washington to work on Columbia River and Columbia River estuary species. All CWMAs have put together a long-term management plan and annual operational plan -- all have reviewed their priority species lists and EDRR lists. The new state-wide Oregon Cooperative Weed Management Association is planning on holding first annual meeting this fall, maybe in conjunction with EDRR summit.
- Oregon Sea Grant - (1) AIS field protocols - to share with Governor's Natural Resource office department heads - summer interns have developed draft outreach materials to communicate the protocols; (2) schools pathway (what happens to plants and animals in classrooms) - introduced crayfish are of great concern (they've been shipped through biological supply houses into classrooms) - state of Washington banned non-native crayfish, but teachers complained to legislators that they couldn't complete their science curriculum because they couldn't get a supply of native crayfish (3) project to examine relative risk of an invasion (New Zealand Mud Snail) - modeling exercise that predicts high risk areas for infestation (Rogue, Umpqua, Santiam, Willamette and John Day Rivers as well as Phillips Lake); and (4) teacher program - WISE Watersheds - help teachers incorporate IS in their curriculum (students visited all the classrooms in the school, interviewed the teacher, and described all of the live species in the classroom) - and the teachers were given disposition criteria.
- Oregon Department of Forestry - full-time invasive species position at ODF - housed in private forests division, but works across all 3 of operating programs. Will be advertised in the fall (Rob Flowers - forest entomologist is the contact). Alan Kanaskie will give an update on SOD at PNWER tomorrow -- this cool weather is causing record numbers of new sites, but all are within the quarantine area.
- SOLV - Earth Day event - 7,600 volunteers across the state (about half of them were students involved in service learning). Shifted from pounds of IS to acres (53 acres) - followed up with 3,400 native trees and shrubs. Greater focus on educating volunteers; distributed 2,500

*GardenSmart* guides to volunteers; initiated development of IS education boards - weatherproof, large displays to educate volunteers; volunteer action trainings to train volunteers to lead volunteer projects - Stream Team captain training is a higher level training with a longer volunteer commitment. Received a few large grants that will enable SOLV to deliver more effective trainings; co-sponsored and hope to continue working with SWCDs and watershed councils; reduced the number of sites that SOLV maintains (from 77 to about half that) - many of those sites were going to naturally graduate from the program after almost 8 years of maintenance; involved 1,500 students in the Portland Metro area connecting classroom curriculum to those sites.

- USDA-APHIS -- Several CAPS projects (on list as well as the extension of the firewood tri-state outreach campaign). ALB detection survey involves the N Columbia Slough WC to survey the slough - capturing negative data that can be reported to support a scientific statement (this fall); target post-entry quarantine nurseries (receive stock and are required to hold it on premises for 2 years before they ship it off site) - discovered through the literature that ALB larvae can be found in nursery stock -- ODA will do a survey around the post-entry quarantine areas; plans for 2012 - looking at budget challenges over the next several years (agency is looking for savings for gypsy moth detection and eradication in the West). Gypsy moth survey has always been challenged to figure out incoming addresses from gypsy moth-infested areas.
- US Forest Service - handout
- DEQ - handout - ballast water regulations are ongoing at the federal level -- Sea Grant fellow at DEQ reviewed biofouling policies for the State of Oregon. Rian will present report on biofouling policy to the Council in September.
- Oregon Seed Trade - Scott's and Monsanto have decided to plant a GMO Kentucky bluegrass that USDA will not regulate. EU countries are afraid of anything GMO (after failed bent grass experiment).
- BLM - National Pesticide Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits - a stay was granted and EPA won't rule on it until October; on the legislative side, there's a bill in the Senate to eliminate the need for a permit. HR 872. BLM is adding 5 new herbicides to their list of pesticides that includes Milestone, 2-4D, etc.
- ODA - last week in Lane County - pitchfork rebellion is suing the state of Oregon to respond to urine samples that were sent to Georgia (found 2-4D and atrazine in urine). Public Health took over that meeting and agreed to do some testing. LBAM was caught in a trap in Polk County last year; put out traps this year -- nothing in traps yet. USDA-APHIS has decided not to finance a national survey on LBAM. Spotted wing drosophila (are finding more specimens in the winter than in early spring). Brown marmorated stink bug - people fear similar situations as Pennsylvania and other eastern states. Have a quarantine facility at OSU to host specificity testing to introduce parasitic wasps that parasitize the eggs of the brown marmorated stink bugs. Had to get a warrant to treat Alyssum on private property in

Josephine County.

- Wallowa Resources - 3,500 acres aerially to treat yellowstar.
- Oregon Sea Grant - Title II funded project with Santiam Watershed Council - trained at-risk youth to do EDRR; encountered several populations of IS that did EDRR.

12. **Invasive Marine Colonial Tunicate**—last year, first confirmed presence in Alaska and 2 in Oregon; importance of outreach to work with boat owners to prevent infestation into other bays. Bruce Hansen wants to do a long-term monitoring of these estuaries. Has anyone looked sub tidally off the coast?

13. **Adopt-A-River - HB 3157**—OSMB needs to complete 4 things listed in the bill, and Glenn Dolphin asked for volunteers; SOLV provides trash bags, gloves, small grants (for litter grabbers, disposal) - program is funded by OSMB, SOLV and other funders. Currently, 140 adopters, cover 530 miles. About 150 events occur annually (small/large events), last year, they removed 50,000 pounds of trash. Yaquina River cleanup - community partnership. **Tim Butler, Vern Holm, and Jeanne Standley volunteered. Glenn will contact Will Lackey at ODOT.** There may be issues with Forest Practices Rules and concerns by private landowners. Groups are not allowed to use herbicides (only hand removal). There are property permissions in place with current landowners (projects would not be approved without private landowner permissions). **Will approach OWEB as well. Will report back to the Council in September.** Maybe the group should focus on developing rules that you beta test on small projects rather than shoot for a statewide set of rules (describe training and identification, level of disturbance, DSL jurisdiction issues). **Glenn will coordinate the group via email.**

14. **Feral swine update**—A presentation was given that provided an update on the status of implementing the Feral Swine Action Plan for Oregon as well as the work ODFW has been conducting (radio collars, trapping, eradication efforts). **The Council gave approval to work with other states on a “Save our Streams - Report - A – Pig” project.**

15. **Quagga/Zebra Mussel Statewide Rapid Response Plan**—Columbia River Basin Plan was developed by 100th Meridian; lays out the game plan for responding to invasion (launch teams, joint information center, legal counsel, etc.). [Incident Command Framework] Six of the 10 objectives fall to the state where the mussels are found to take the lead. Lead agency is ODFW. Recognizing and understanding response options will help up respond. This plan is intended to complement the CRBP as well as stand-alone guidance. Pre-Invasion Planning for EDRR. Further work to do: will an incident common structure work or even be necessary for an OR only response? If not, how should we structure a response team that has the authority/capability of establishing and maintaining authority to respond? Is legislative action required for quarantine authority? The plan could be expanded for use with other AIS - build in an evaluation step to determine merit for RR. Sets of actions "alert, suspect, positive" trigger different actions.

16. **Firewood** – Mark Farley updated the Council on the Firewood Buddy smartphone application. **It was suggested that we check with keep Oregon Green to ensure our checklists for the app have quality safety information. It was also suggested we change “Invasive Problem” button to something more positive, and ensure that the key three messages, (1) pests hitchhike on**

firewood (2) Don't move firewood, and (3) Buy it Where you Burn it are adequately represented in the app.

17. **Date and Location of Meeting** - September 27 and September 28, 2011 is the meeting in Boardman. Weed Board is meeting on the 26. They propose meeting with OISC on the morning of the 27th, then we meet on the 28th of September at the local meeting rooms. Let Washington Weed Board and Washington Invasive Species Councils know about the September meeting. Tuesday for field trip and meeting with State Weed Board.