**PACIFIC COUNTY**

**NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD**

Regular Meeting

7:00 P.M. Tuesday September 27, 2016

410 Quincy Street, South Bend, WA 98586

**MINUTES**

Members in attendance: Bob Rose (chair), Doug Camenzind, Paul Waldref (via phone), Jeff Nesbitt (coordinator)

1. Call to Order: 7:18 PM
2. Minutes from the June 21st meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Camenzind, seconded by Waldref. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Old Business
   * 1. Spartina— Ed Darcher and crew have finished their second pass and are planning a third. The final pass will target “hot spots”, areas that have historically required the most attention in order to attain an acceptable level of control. They have logged just over 800 points so far this year. This represents a reduction in total plants found this year versus last year, albeit not as large of a reduction as we predicted at the beginning of the season. The numbers continue to drop every year as we try to find and control the last of the Spartina.
     2. Moby Dick Property/Seton property—Ed and/or Jeff will be checking on the progress of this area later in the week. The Seton section was treated last year and we will look for regrowth. The Moby Dick section has still not been treated and is supposed to have been mowed on a regular basis. We will visit and make sure the mowing is taking place, as ordered and that no plants have been allowed to reach maturity or produce seed.
     3. Knotweed— We have concluded our knotweed treatments for the year. We completed most treatments early in the summer to avoid spraying while bees were present on the plants. This has been a successful strategy in the past because it allows for healthy pollinators, happy bee keepers, and effective treatments. This year we dropped glyphosate from our knotweed mix in an attempt to produce a more effective and lasting kill. So far, we are seeing positive results and we will know more next year when knotweed begins its life cycle again.
     4. Baker’s Bay— We received approval from DNR for $17,000 of funding to control noxious weeds in Bakers Bay from June 2016-June 2017. We chose to target the weeds: Purple Loosestrife, Yellowflag Iris, Non-native Cattail, Phragmites, and Knotweed. We spent approximately three weeks searching for and treating noxious weeds. The treatments were done in sections starting with the West side of the bay and finishing on the East. We would like to continue working on Baker’s Bay in the coming years so that we can battle the weeds that continue to wash in from up the Columbia river.
     5. Soil testing project- Ten soil samples have been collected from various areas in Willapa Bay. The sample sites were selected because of the high use of herbicides in these areas. The soil was tested for residual presence of herbicides and so far none of the samples have shown any residual herbicides. The plan is to follow-up with each of these sites, collecting a new sample and testing for herbicides. The goals is to have data that shows no residual herbicide in the soil before or after Spartina treatments have taken place. The new samples will be collected within the next month.
     6. South Main—The parrotfeather milfoil has been very difficult to control this year. We decided to try Roundup Custom, instead of imazapyr this year. This was decided to avoid the long irrigation restrictions that come with imazapyr. So far the treatments have been effective. We have also had an issue with access to the canal. Our access was blocked by trees, brush and grass on a middle section of the canal, which remains untreated. The rest of the canal, including the section that winds around behind Safari RV park, was treated and is showing positive results.
     7. Pacific County ROW— After a late start, we were able to get all caught up on roadside spraying. The new truck has been working very well and allowing us to make up time. We are currently working on brush control along County roads and on gorse/scotch broom control on County property.
4. New Business
   1. Wenatchee Weed Conference—The conference will be held November 3-5 at Coast Wenatchee Center hotel. This year we are considering allowing our licensed applicators to attend in order to receive credits towards their license.
   2. MRC Summit—October 20-22 at the Breakers hotel and the WSU extension unit in Long Beach. The purpose of the meeting is to hear from the coastal MRC groups about what they have been working on this year. It is a good networking opportunity and Weed Board members are welcome to attend.
   3. Enforcement Discussion— As a State-sanctioned Weed Board, we are tasked with enforcing noxious weed regulations in Pacific County. However, as a Department within the Pacific County government, we have certain responsibilities that must be met in order for our organization to function. We need to be able to bring in revenue, which means spending time working on contract projects from consistent funding sources (i.e. DNR, WSDA). This does not leave much time for enforcement activities, especially considering the short window that we have each year during which weeds are actually visible. In addition to the timing issue, there are funding restraints. We do not have enough reserved funding to be able to pay for enforced control and wait for a lien to be paid. It is time to consider options and come up with a plan that will make enforcement in Pacific County more of a priority in 2017 and beyond.
5. Adjournment—Motion by Camenzind to adjourn meeting, seconded by Rose. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

***Next Meeting will be held on December 13th, 2016 at 410 Quincy Street, South Bend, WA 98586 at 7:00 PM.***

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Nesbitt, Noxious Weed Control Board coordinator

Adopted by the Pacific County Weed Board at South Bend, Washington, then signed by its membership and attest by its Coordinator in authorization of such adoption this 13thday of December, 2016.

PACIFIC COUNTY, WASHINGTON

WEED BOARD

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Warren Cowell, Member

ATTEST:

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Jeff Nesbitt, Coordinator Doug Camenzind, Member

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David Bale, Member