

OISC Meeting Minutes

March 3 & 4, 2010

Salem, Oregon

Members Present March 3, 2010

Sam Chan, Steve Buttrick, Glen Dolphin, Marla Harrison, Dan Walters, Doug Daoust, Mitch Nelson, Vanelle Peterson, Mark Porter, Nancy Willmes, Rian Hooff, Daniel Hilburn, Eric Rickerson, Mark Sytsma, Lisa DeBruyckere, Tristen Berg

Members Present March 4, 2010

Sam Chan, Steve Buttrick, Glen Dolphin, Marla Harrison, Dan Walters, Doug Daoust, Mitch Nelson, Vanelle Peterson, Mark Porter, Nancy Willmes, Rian Hooff, Daniel Hilburn, Eric Rickerson, Mark Sytsma, Jim Paul, Lisa DeBruyckere, Tristen Berg

ACTION AND DECISION ITEMS HIGHLIGHTED IN GREEN

Agenda Item #1 – Meeting Objectives and Agenda Review

Agenda Item #2 – Results of the Statewide Invasive Species Assessment and Next Steps – Strategic Plan

Lisa DeBruyckere presented the results of the Statewide Invasive Species Assessment and the Portland Invasive Animal Species Assessment. The Council provided the following feedback for the Portland Invasive Animal Species Assessment:

- Add gypsy moth to the list (expected within the next 5-10 years)
- Review inconsistency for zooplankton
- Look at incentives for compliance and not just policy and enforcement
- Clearly define “non-native” vs. “invasive” for the general public
- Add corbicula, but recognize cultural attachments and review document for sensitivity to cultures that use some of these invasive species
- Review whether monk parakeets need to be included
- Remove spiny waterflea

Lisa provided 30 recommendations resulting from the Statewide Invasive Species Assessment. The Council decided to postpone the discussion of the 30 recommendations until the second day of the meeting.

Agenda Item #3 – Regional Invasive Species Summit in 2010

The Council approved the concept of the regional invasive species summit in 2010 and gave Lisa approval to continue working with her counterparts in Washington, California, and Idaho. Numerous Council members indicated they could attend. Mitch Nelson suggested that his organization and USDA Forest Service receive formal invitations for their attendance.

Agenda Item #4 – Statewide Invasive Species Summit in 2010

The Council approved the concept of a statewide invasive species summit in the fall of 2010. Lisa will work with Council members and advisory committee members to designate legislators and their staffs to work with to set the date.

Working Lunch – Annual Awards Banquet

Awards were presented (see attached program brochure for a listing of awards and recipients).

Agenda Item #5 – Review 2009 Annual Report and Report Card

The revisions provided by the Council changed some of the individual grades, but the overall grade remained the same. The Council discussed the 2009 annual report and report card. The Council requested that Lisa clarify, in both the annual press release and the introductory language on the report card, that the grade is for the State of Oregon and not the Council.

Agenda Item #6 – Invasive Species Legislation – 2011

Mark Sytsma provided an update on:

- Stopping Authority
- Invasive species rules – lobbying to make program permanent
- Vectors and Pathways – currently just a discussion – nothing moving forward in 2011 in terms of a broad bill encompassing numerous vectors and pathways, but individual bills (e.g., ballast water) will move forward
- Ballast water
- County Weed boards (no opposition, but no backing).
- Firewood – currently a legislative concept
- Invasive Species Emergency Response Fund (draft format – hearing April 21 at 11am).

Eric said he was willing to investigate obtaining a legal opinion on stopping authority from the Oregon Department of Justice.

Regarding County Weed boards, the Council discussed seeking base funding for each county during the 2011 legislative session. They also discussed the potential to include all taxa per county. It was decided that there needs to be a two-step process. First, obtain base funding for counties for weeds. Then, in concert with the counties, develop a game plan for expanding authority to all taxa.

There is some confusion by County Commissioners about what the weed boards do. Need to do more outreach to the commissioners. Look at tying this in with EDRR discussion at the National Level. Could look at lumping this in with a farm bill. Need to show results that are measurable in order to access dollars from the farm bill.

Subgroup will get together to discuss the County Weed board bill and propose action to the Council. Group includes Mitch, Dan Hilburn, Dan Walters, Mark Porter, and Mark Sytsma.

Council also discussed adding a “check box” on tax returns for funding OISC. This is a

lengthy process requiring signatures and approved through legislation. Could do this for awareness and not just for dollars.

Council discussed firewood legislation. Currently still as concept. What distance should be included (currently written as 100 miles outside your county)? OISC wants to prevent interstate transport of firewood. Lisa will send current draft to constituents. There is no biological reason for the 100 miles. Expect controversy because it is deeply engrained in Oregonians to be able to transport firewood throughout the state.

Agenda Item #7 – Invasive Risks to Oregon Campgrounds via firewood; past present and future

Mark Hitchcock presented the results of a study he conducted on firewood movement and how much risk that means for Oregon.

Council discussed the risk and provided the following feedback:

- Add a statement about firewood transport and pest risk to the reservation system to begin educating the public
- Look at out-of-state hunting database for additional data
- Risk may be more that is presented here in the data because pests could be released in transport (back of pickup truck) and not just at the campgrounds.
- RV Park Association may be able to provide more data
- Need to bring this study up at the summit
- Need to work on an outreach program for the state
- Caution – make sure it is worded carefully – OISC not against campfires!
- Can the study Mark Hitchcox presented be conducted for campgrounds throughout Oregon? Where are Oregonians traveling with their firewood?
- Should bring this up at the Invasive Species Awareness week in DC. Vanelle is willing to bring this up at the National level.

Agenda Item #8 – Pacific NW Regional Firewood Outreach Campaign

Sam and Lisa provided the Council with an update. The outreach campaign includes Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. Three states are sharing the funding. The work plan is in draft form and needs to be sent to APHIS. Working on a “buy local, burn local” campaign, firewood exchange, and leasing firewood dispensers (called woodchucks). Idaho is working on making sure that the woodchucks are stocked with local firewood.

Pilot study will include 5 high-risk campgrounds (3 state, 1 federal, and 1 private). Free firewood will be provided. Pre- and post campaign surveys will include interviews to determine who many folks are bringing their own firewood and from where. Also proposing a firewood exchange program at the hay exchange station in Minam – details need to be worked out, but the Council is seeking a green solution (e.g., transporting the firewood to a local school district for their burner).

APHIS funds need to be spent within one year. Possibility of an extension in time only (3 months) – not funds.

Lisa will send draft work plan electronically.

Next meeting of the Firewood Campaign Outreach and Education Committee is March 18 (3 -5pm) at ODF offices in Salem (call in available).

Work plan will be submitted to APHIS (Mitch) by March 19.

Agenda Item #9 – Other Committee Reports

Bylaws – Rian provided an update on four items –

- Appointed members process and terms (better wording needed?)
- Administration – potentially better wording and clarity needed?
- Add language for the Coordinator position?
- Advisory Committee – should these members be appointed by the Council

The Council discussed the above 4 items and provided feedback. Rian will provide the updated and edited bylaws electronically prior to the next meeting for approval by the Council.

Agenda Item #10 – 100 Worst List

The Council discussed the 2009 100 worst list and the three species suggested for adding in 2010. The three suggested species include Japanese Dodder, Spanish Heath, and Phragmites. After discussion, the two species of toxic algae will be lumped and the two species of waterfleas will be lumped. Japanese Dodder and Phragmites will be added to the list for 2010.

Agenda Item #11 – Fundraising Updates

Lisa provided an update on fundraising.

- Potential money available through federal stimulus dollars (TNC and supporters)
- Raised \$24,000 for Garden Smart reprint
- Marla has \$25,000 for display at PDX that must be spent by June 30. Needs subcommittee to work on this project. Mitch volunteered.
- Lisa will provide Doug D. with the dollar amount needed to fund the coordinator position for the last two months in 2011.

Agenda Item #12 – Working Lunch – Council Member reports and updates

Agenda Item #13 – Curry County Sudden Oak Death Project – An update

Lisa and Dan Hilburn traveled to Coos Bay to provide input and encouragement regarding slash. Lisa and Dan encouraged the SOD working group to seek solutions and sources of funding funding. Need more ideas for Curry County. Maybe local hardwoods could be used for railroad ties?

Agenda Item #14 – Bark beetles and other invasive species

Helmuth Rogg stepped in for Jim LaBonte and provided an update on bark beetles and other invasive species. Risks include live plant industry, wood products, and container and transport hubs. We need stronger legislation, more monitoring, and more training for taxonomists.

Agenda Item #15 – 30 recommendations from the Statewide Assessment

The Council discussed the recommendations and the need to focus and prioritize the list. The strategic plan needs to be developed to provide the Council with a 3 – 5 year vision. Plan could potentially be organized around deliverables. Strategic plan should clearly define actions and a plan for implementation (needs to include cost for implementation).

Council conducted a quick survey to see where the priorities are: Top priorities include recommendation numbers 3, 5, 6, 8, 12 &13, 16 & 17, and 23.

Lisa will send out a survey to the Council members (electronically) for a more in-depth look at priorities.

Subcommittee will work on priorities and plan: Steve Buttrick, Mark Sytsma, Vanelle Peterson, Mark Porter, and Lisa DeBruyckere

Agenda Item #16 – A New OISC Certification? New Strategies to Provide Training and Certification to Industry Professionals

The Council discussed the need for providing training and outreach to industry professionals that work in tree canopies and can assist in early identification of insects. Concern was expressed regarding the use of the word “certification,” as the intent would be for a company to receive training and then a certificate.

Eric will call his contact with EWEB to look into pilot program. Subcommittee will work on this outreach plan: Lisa, Bennet, Vanelle, Eric, Steve and other TNC folks. Look at maybe extending this to ODOT.

Public Comment

Sam asked for public comment. None received.

Adjourn. Next meeting will be before the statewide summit. Lisa will route dates electronically.