



# Oregon Invasive Species Council

## Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2014 and June 19, 2014

DESCHUTES COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT, 61150 SE 27TH ST, BEND, OR 97702

June 18, 2014

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### OISC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shawna Bautista, USFS  
Rick Boatner, ODFW  
John Browning, Weyerhaeuser  
Carolyn Devine, Council Coordinator  
Glenn Dolphin, OSMB  
Thea W. Hayes, PPS and other Public Districts  
Dan Hilburn, ODA  
Vern Holm, Western Invasives Network (WIN)  
Rian Hooff, Oregon DEQ

Dominic Maze, City of Portland  
Leslie Shaffer, ODA, Special Assistant to the Council  
Dan Sherwin, High Valley Enterprises, LLC.  
Tania Siemens, OSU Sea Grant, Special Assistant to the Council  
Mark Sytsma, PSU  
Mike Wallace, USDA APHIS PPQ (representing Mark Hitchcox)  
Wyatt Williams, ODF

### MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Kev Alexanian, Crook County Weed Control  
Tristen Berg, ODA  
Tim Butler, ODA  
Mike Crumrine, ODA  
Casandra Fritos, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
Dustin Johnson, OSU Extension  
Don Ferrar, Gilliam County

Robert Marheine, Deschutes County Weed Board  
Bill Reynolds, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
Helmuth Rogg, ODA  
Sasha Twelker, ODA

*Chair Mark Sytsma presided over the meeting both days.*

## 1. OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL (OISC) BUDGET

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Carolyn Devine explained the budget, describing the overall organization and expenses since February 2014.

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*Action Items*

**Carolyn Devine** will call Todd Thompson (BLM), Alan Hening (EPA) to explore potential funding from federal agencies.

**Carolyn Devine** will work coordinate with Roberta Laux to re-organize budget categories. Specifically, iMap invasives will be removed; the Council does not expect further invoices from PSU. Operations, Coordinator, and Other columns will be combined.

## 2. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chair Wyatt Williams presented his proposal for the Advisory Committee and the draft charter.

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### *Decision*

Motion made by Dominic Maze to adopt the Advisory Committee Charter, seconded by Vern Holm. Unanimously approved.

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### *Action Items*

**Council Members** review the list of Advisory Council prospects prepared by Wyatt and submit names and contact information for other potential considerations.

**Wyatt Williams** will contact those on his list who agreed to participate in the Advisory Council and begin the process of engaging them.

## 3. TUNICATE COMMITTEE

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Glenn Dolphin presented the committee's proposal to use Emergency Funds to move forward on the Action Plan targeting tunicates in the South Coast.

The Council discussed the possibility of this being the first year of a multi-year project that may or may not include future fund requests of the Council.

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### *Decision*

Motions made by Vern Holm to declare an emergency and to declare use of trust funds toward the implementation of the Action Plan as presented by the tunicate committee; seconded by Thea Hayes. Unanimously approved.

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### *Action Items*

**Tunicate Committee** will move forward with the Action Plan, and, following administrative rules associated with the Emergency Funds, will provide required reports to the Council on outcomes. In addition, the committee will document and include in future funding requests the value of the in-kind donations from the divers and other project partners.

**Carolyn Devine** will contact Meg Kenagy (ODFW) and Ashley Massey (OSMB) to prepare a press release collaboratively in time for the activity scheduled for this fall. Messaging will be clear that this is an experimental suppression of the population rather than a guaranteed eradication.

## 4. ODOT'S WEED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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Will Lackey, Vegetation Management Coordinator, ODOT presented on his work and program.

## 5. FUNDING PROPOSAL / 1% PATHWAY UPDATE

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Dan Hilburn discussed the status of this funding plan on a future meeting of Council members and Natural Resources agency heads with the Governor's office. At that meeting, Council members will be asked: how much money would be required to fund an EDRR program and how those funds would be spent.

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### *Action Item*

**Council Members** will send Carolyn their ideas per Dan's handout.

## 6. COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES

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### **SHAWNA BAUTISTA**

- The USFS is using the "Buy it Where You Burn It" posters and requested the original graphic files so that they could also print them.
- The USFS is working on a closure order for all of the national forests to prohibit the possession and transport of invasive species. The primary focus is on preventing the transport of aquatic invasive species into lakes in the national forests and would enable the USFS to prevent a contaminated boat from launching into the water. The closure order will allow closer alignment between State regulations and restrictions on federal National Forest System land, and also allow better consistency in allowable actions between State and Forest Service law enforcement officers.
- They are preparing for when the pigs show up on USFS land.
- She is working on grants and agreements.
- Vanessa Morgan did training on invasive plants.

- There is an invasive plant conference September 17-18<sup>th</sup> at the UW Botanic Garden. Dan Simberloff is a keynote.
  - The USFS has seen and will continue to see a large number of retirements, a “silver tsunami.”
  - From WISC, during a 4-day border inspection stopping truck traffic:
    - The WA Dept. of Ag. has found that there is a lot of traffic to the PNW from gypsy moth states and very little self-compliance with required self-inspection forms.
    - WA Dept. of Ag. also found hibiscus plants heading for Walmarts in OR, WA, CA that were infested with ants and snails from Florida. Walmart cooperated, and sent the shipment back to FL -
  - The USFS projected budget for 2015 is consistent as that for 2014.
  - The weed free forage program is continuing, but it’s hard to ensure enforcement by the Forest Protection Officers. Despite yearly training and refresher courses, there is a hesitance to approach forest users with a potentially controversial topic and public compliance is a challenge.
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## **RICK BOATNER**

- All five watercraft inspection stations are operative: Gold Beach, Ashland, Klamath Falls, Lakeview and Ontario. Ashland and Ontario stations have the longest hours and are general open from 7AM-7PM/ 7 days; the others three stations are open on variable hours and day. Most vessel traffic is between 11AM-3PM. With 1 more hire, the AIS program will be at full staff
- As of June 16 the Watercraft Inspection Teams (WIT) have already inspected over 2,500 boats this season, and have hot water decontaminated 5 vessels with invasive mussels and decontaminated 47 other vessels with plant material such as Eurasian milfoil. Most of the contaminated boats have been coming out of the Great Lakes and heading toward Puget Sound area.
- Ashland has conducted over 52% of the watercraft inspection; Ontario has the greatest number of finds, which is surprising because these boats have gone through other states with inspection stations.
- Due to the intense control work through aerial gunning and trapping there was no new feral swine damage observed this spring in the control area. Camera data also demonstrates no new pigs in the area for 1.5 years. The last week of June, the USDA Wildlife Service will be expanding aerial gunning and surveillance into nearby Gilliam and Sherman counties.
- A number of female invasive turtles have been spotted and turned in this spring as they’re moving to nesting areas; one Snapping turtle nest found in the Beaverton area contained 72 eggs.
- Oregon State Police cited a pet store for possession of prohibited species, and removed 13 prohibited turtles.

- Oregon requires authorization for the import, purchase and transport of live crayfish which are brought here for personal consumption and special events. The person receiving shipments from the importer must follow guidelines which are designed to prevent the accidental release of non-native crayfish, such as a requirement for storing in a secured locked area, and quick transfer from that secure area to a boiling pan. The requirements of the import of live crawfish caught members of the public off guard even though the rules have been in place since 2000.
  - An Australian perch called the Barramundi will be presented to the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Commission to be classified as a Controlled Species for commercial purposes. This fish's life cycle is very unique in that they are born as males in salt water and after maturing in freshwater return to the salt water to spawn and turn into females. They also have a very low cold water tolerance, if water temperature goes below around 64 degrees they die.
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### **JOHN BROWNING**

- John Browning presented on research regarding Sudden Larch Death, how it has spread in the UK; and extrapolations of those findings to the Western larch populations in Oregon. Western larches are already stressed due to mistletoe and climate change. The alpine larch is not a tree of economic value. There is currently not a known species on which *P. ramorum* produces lots of spores that will spread the pathogen east of the Cascades. Furthermore, climatic conditions east of the Cascades are probably less favorable for the spread of *P. ramorum*.
  - John as well as several other Weyerhaeuser employees gained a login/pwd for iMap.
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### **GLENN DOLPHIN**

- Glenn trained BLM Wild and Scenic River Rangers in offices of Prineville and Roseburg; a training will also happen at Grants Pass during July.
- Oregon Parks and Rec. has an invasive species committee that holds meetings across the state. Glenn talked to the committee about aquatic invasive species. He noted that as an agency, they are aware of invasives and the impacts they have, though because it is up to each park manager to plan for invasives management, there is some variation across the state.
- Glenn held his annual training for trained state troopers law enforcement officers regarding aquatic invasives and relevant laws. This is a high priority for law enforcement agencies enforcing boating law the OSP; 240 enforcement actions have been taken for lack of permits in a 6 week period.
- There have been no enforcement actions of the clean launch law, because the police law enforcement officers intervene at the boat ramp and allow boat owners the opportunity to clean their boats in the parking lot.
- Glenn and Rick have made visits to 3 of the 5 inspection stations and have started to coordinate a more structured enforcement schedule. This year, the station at Klamath Falls has been the most aggressive with enforcements, where they have zero tolerance.
- The hotline receives calls daily, many of which are not polite. Glenn sees it as an opportunity to educate citizens about the reasons for the fees.

- OSMB AIS special projects funds are limited, and this year they will only be able to help with zebra and quagga mussels waterbody monitoring and the Oregon Lake Watch program. Glenn anticipates funding for the next biennium to be even tighter with no extra funds being available for special projects.
  - OMSB may be open to a fee increase in 2017 to increase service levels at inspection stations levels. Boats are getting through because the stations are not open long enough.
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### **THEA HAYES**

- Reported during the Education/Outreach committee agenda item on Thursday, June 19.
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### **DAN HILBURN**

- ODA does inspection and certification of nurseries for SOD. 5 positive nurseries were found this summer. USDA has switched from inclusive inspections to an approach that targets high-risk nurseries or those that have had a history of positives. As a result, ODA is taking more samples from fewer nurseries. Nursery owners and managers have not received this easily. Nurseries lose inventory and therefore revenue should a sample be positive for the fungus.
- The weed world is busily focusing on A Rated weeds, trying to get on top of small infestations of plants such as giant hogweed, purple star thistle, kudzu, etc.
- The Weed Board has approved another round of grants.
- Helmut emphasized the collaborative work with APHIS, ODF and USFS trapping Asian defoliators. The work is funded through the Farm Bill. They are also surveying high-risk sites that are pathways for invasive species, collecting non-selectively in order to assess which species are present. In particular, they are looking for insects and mollusks.
- The Eastern heath snail is harming grain crops in Montana. It's just a matter of time for them to be present in Oregon since they bring grain from that state through Oregon to ship to Asia.
- ODA works with APHIS assisting private landowners in the management of grasshopper populations.
- Japanese beetles are always coming in with the cargo industry: UPS, FEDEX, they spend millions of dollars to exclude JB on the east side. If detected, in Oregon, we can eradicate an infestation in a couple of years, but it will always be an ongoing problem. In and around the Portland International Airport, we have almost 1,000 JB traps set up, of which 300 are special photo JB traps. The photo traps can easily be monitored in a few minutes from the office computer checking the image send from the photo trap to a website every night. It would take a survey technician about three weeks to check the traps.
- One ODA staff is working with ARS in WA on lures for spotted wing drosophila. Management actions are being led by OSU; Dan coordinates conference calls. The management of this pest is leading to a lot of pesticide use in the state, especially in southwest Oregon where the populations are greater.
- ODA is working with OSU and ARS on lure testing for brown marmorated stink bugs; there are no good traps yet.

- An upcoming pest is the azalea lacebug, the specific identification of which is still being worked on. It's a European species of lacebug that has been in the Eastern US for over 100 years; In Oregon, the pest is now affecting blueberries as well as other hosts. The insect occurs on the underside of the leaf, making it fairly easy to control. OSU is working on a bio-control.
  - Ash populations in Europe are being hit by both emerald ash borer and ash dieback.
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## **VERN HOLM**

- As the coordinator of WIN, Vern works with 8 separate CWMAs in NW Oregon and SW Washington.
  - There is a large increase of *Ludwigia* on the Willamette River where it grows in slack water and oxbows. An emergent plant, it grows to about 3 feet over the water, blocking light to the river and choking out other plants. The habitat is rendered inaccessible to fish, hunting, birds, and other native wildlife. ODA has plans for an aerial survey from Eugene down to Albany looking for *Ludwigia*. Treatment is a humongous and daunting endeavor, and there is a pre-proposal in to NFWF to test methods: herbicides, pulling, and other control measures.
  - The Oregon Vegetation Management Association will be conducting a conference this fall at Seaside. They expect a group of approximately 300 for 3 days of instruction in IPM, new invaders, etc.
  - Vern working with the Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership to collaborate and share information about how to handle invasive plants in oak prairie habitats and to establish a CWMA that extends from British Columbia to Oregon.
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## **RIAN HOOFF**

- Will report further on results from the Task Force on Shipping Transport of AIS in a presentation on Thursday, June 19. The Task Force reached consensus on five recommendations to the 2015 Legislature, including: i) increasing the ballast water management vessel arrival fee in order to support programs current service level through 2017/19 biennium, and ii) distribution of ballast management penalties to the OISC invasive species control trust account (rather than to General Fund). A majority of task force members also support a continuation of oceanic ballast water exchange practices – in addition to new federal ballast discharge standards that incorporate the use of shipboard treatment systems – though maritime industry representatives currently oppose the proposal.
- Current ballast program funding supports 1.5 FTE. This allows for the vessel inspection and compliance verification aboard approximately 15% of the ships operating at Oregon ports.
- Prior to June 2014, DEQ had only issued one major formal enforcement action for ballast water non-compliance. Two recent incidents, however, will result in the issuance of formal enforcement penalties.
- The penalties for non-compliance increased significantly as a result of administrative rulemaking in January 2014.
- DEQ will be re-issuing an NPDES general permit for seafood processing plants during the latter part of 2014. Re-issuance of the permit provides an opportunity to revise best management practices for aquaculture facilities, such as the Umpqua Oyster Facility that is associated with

contaminated equipment in the Winchester Triangle. Members of the tunicate committee (or other interested parties) should provide recommendations to Rian by mid- July.

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### **DOMINIC MAZE**

- Dom reported that he feels like he's doing more and more w/ less and less. The city of Portland has been working with ODA for a number of years on a variety of species, including hogweed and orange hawkweed. The city has its own laws which complement ODA laws regarding how to handle non-compliant private property with weeds on site.
  - He's also worked on aquatic species, including *Ludwigia* which they are controlling in the Portland METRO area.
  - They are surveying the Columbia Slough for *Ludwigia* and *Phragmites*, both are A – Ranked weeds (must eradicate) and they are finding them in storm water facilities and natural areas. These weeds could have gotten there any number of ways
  - Portland and Metro have developed and will be using a weed treatment calendar that is modeled after King City so that management activities can be timed throughout the year for greatest effectiveness.
  - Dominic works with the team at APHIS on a number of species such as the dark strawberry tortrix moth which is common in the British Isles and Western Europe. Recently, a group of citizen scientists cut any leaf roller signs they say, placed the specimen in a bag and now the scientists at APHIS are growing them up to see what species are present.
  - They are also surveying for exotic mollusks.
  - The city received another Weed Board grant to treat for garlic mustard. Match funds are from East and West Multnomah SWCDs.
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### **MARK SYTSMA**

- This is a busy time for aquatic invasive species surveying around the state.
- There is a big ongoing quagga and zebra mussel survey project funded by BPA and in partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission that involves collecting samples from around the region for early detection of zebra/quagga mussels. It's early in the season but no sample has been positive for mussels yet.
- Mark is Chair of the PNWER invasive species work group, which is meeting in Whistler, BC in July. The work group is interested in regional early detection programs.
- PSU continues to study the antifouling coatings for mitigation of mussel fouling in the Columbia River. The study will help to determine a cost-benefit analysis of the expensive coatings so that they can amortize costs. Mark will know by July 10 if they will continue to receive funds for these studies.
- Mark has another grant proposal in to BPA, including the "Mussel Squeeze" proposal which will examine the effectiveness of manipulating water levels in reservoirs as a control mechanism.



- Other projects include biology and water quality monitoring in Diamond Lake following the tui chub removal, BLM funded aquatic weed early detection surveys in southern and eastern Oregon, and continued work with ODA on aquatic weed management and Lake Watch in Oregon. The Lake Watch Program uses citizen scientists in early detection of aquatic invasive species.
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### **MIKE WALLACE**

- On temporary assignment and present at the Council for Mark Hitchcox from whom there was a report that provided an overview of projects.
  - There was an increase in funding provided through the Farm Bill through fiscal year 2017 from \$50 million to \$62.5 million.
  - Mike described his impressions of the differences in invasive species work and coordination between Oregon and Arizona. He's going to use Oregon as a model and will return to Arizona with some suggestions that he gained from being at the meeting.
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### **WYATT WILLIAMS**

- ODF has been cooperating with APHIS surveying for Emerald Ash Borer.
  - ODF has been cooperating with ODA surveying for Asian Gypsy Moths.
  - Due to a 1-year Farm Bill grant, OSU will be training for (cut the word "for") arborists and other professional tree people regarding EAB and Asian Long-horned Beetle.
  - Data from aerial surveys of Coos and Curry Counties that determined the current distribution of gorse is available on the ODF website under the forest health invasive species page.
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### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Carolyn Devine** will work with Tristen Berg to locate the original artwork for the "Buy it where you burn it" campaign and forward on to Shawna Bautista. Will also save files in a shared resource.

**Carolyn Devine** will work with Council Members to engage the Invasives Steering Committee of Oregon Parks and Recreation and request that they participate and potentially present at the next Council meeting. .

## **7. SAGE-GROUSE**

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Guest speakers Dustin Johnson and Chad Boyd shared with the Council progress of their work in Eastern Oregon with local communities on Candidate Conservation Agreements for the recovery of greater sage-grouse. They've found that solutions that meet community social and economic needs as well as viewing the problem at an ecosystem (rather than species) scale are critical to their success.

## 8. LOCAL ISSUES

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Guest speaker Robert Marheine enthusiastically related his experiences and thoughts on funding for invasive species work. He encouraged the Council to think creatively about how to do a better job of selling invasives work using the amount of funding that has gone in to fighting fires, such as the recent and nearby Two Bulls Fire.

## 9. WALKING TOUR, YELLOW FLOATING HEART

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The group traveled a short distance to view a private property with an infestation of yellow floating heart and to discuss eradication options. They discussed how it took a team to have a positive identification of the plant, and then implement an eradication effort.

Thursday, June 19

### JUNE 19, 2014 MEMBERS PRESENT

Shawna Bautista, USFS  
Rick Boatner, ODFW  
John Browning, Weyerhaeuser  
Carolyn Devine, Council Coordinator  
Glenn Dolphin, OSMB  
Thea W. Hayes, PPS and other Public Districts  
Dan Hilburn, ODA  
Vern Holm, Western Invasives Network (WIN)

Rian Hooff, Oregon DEQ  
Dominic Maze, City of Portland  
Leslie Shaffer, ODA, Special Assistant to the Council  
Dan Sherwin, High Valley Enterprises, LLC.  
Tania Siemens, OSU Sea Grant, Special Assistant to the Council  
Mark Sytsma, PSU  
Wyatt Williams, ODF

### JUNE 19, 2014 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

Robert Marheine, Deschutes County Weed Board  
Tristen Berg, ODA  
Chad Boyd, USDA NRCS  
Tim Butler, ODA  
Mike Crumrine, ODA

Cassandra Fritos, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
Dustin Johnson, OSU Extension  
Helmuth Rogg, ODA  
Sasha Twelker, ODA

## 9. AWARD NOMINATIONS

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The council discussed each of the awards, nominees and then voted on the winners.

Eagle Eye Award – 2 winners:

The Yellow Floating Heart Group (nominated by Dan Hilburn)

The longshoreman who noticed Asian gypsy moth (nominated by Mark Hitchcox)

The Sandy Dietrich Award: Lisa DeBruyckere (nominated by Dan Hilburn)

Industry Award: Jan Eliot (nominated by Sam Chan)

10 Fingers in the Dike: Yellow Tuft Alyssum Working Group (nominated by Shawna Bautista)

Service Awards: Judy Sanders, Mark Porter, Doug Doust (nominated by Dan Hilburn)

Invader Crusader: Lee Cain and Students (nominated by Thea Hayes)

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### *Decision*

Motion made by Shawna Bautista to:

- Amend the description of the Invader Crusader Award to include teachers
- To nominate the Award Winners as described above for 2013.

Seconded by Thea Hayes. Unanimously approved.

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### *Action Items*

**Council Members** who nominated awardees should email Carolyn the following materials in time for the award banquet: the full correct names of each of the winners, their address and email address. They should also send relevant photos for use in the slide presentation. In addition, during the actual award ceremony, Council members need to be prepared with a short statement describing why the winner merits the award.

**Carolyn Devine** will begin a project plan for the award ceremony.

**Leslie Shaffer** will track down previous award and certificate examples.

## 10. EXTERNAL REVIEW PROJECT PLAN

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Chair Mark Sytsma discussed the external review.

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### *Decision*

Motion made by Dominic Maze to approve the External Review Project Plan budget. Seconded by Rian Hooff. Approved unanimously.

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*Action Items*

**Mark Sytsma** will coordinate with INR to get the paperwork started.

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## 11. EDUCATION/OUTREACH COMMITTEE/AND MEDIA CONTEST

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Special Assistant Tania Siemens presented the latest updates of the media contest and legislative outreach efforts.

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*Action Items*

**Tania Siemens and Carolyn Devine** will work together to draft an accurate budget with funding options for presentation to the council, and then schedule a conference call so that Members can vote and approve the budget and investment of further Council funds on this project.

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## 12. GOVSPACE AND NEW WEBSITE

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Carolyn asked for feedback on GovSpace and shared with the group the updates she has made to [oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org](http://oregoninvasivespeciescouncil.org).

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*Action Items*

**Council Members** should review the website and provide constructive criticism to Carolyn.

**Carolyn Devine** will continue to use GovSpace as a repository for documents; items that need immediate editing will be sent via email.

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## 13. SHIPPING TRANSPORT OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

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Rian Hooff presented on the Ballast Water program of DEQ and recent changes and proposed changes to various policies.

He shared highlights from the Report to the 2015 Legislature, by the Oregon Task Force on the Shipping Transport of Aquatic Invasive Species.

[http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/cu/emergency/docs/STAIS\\_LegReport2015.pdf](http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/cu/emergency/docs/STAIS_LegReport2015.pdf)

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## 14. IAE EVENT, INVASIVE SPECIES COOKOFF

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Tamara Mullen presented on the event and displayed the benefits of sponsorship. Council members discussed the previous year's event.

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*Decision*

Motion made by Dan Hilburn to support the event with a \$1,500 sponsorship that is a hybrid offering that provides exposure to the Council yet does not include OISC member's tickets to the event. Seconded by Rian. Approved unanimously.

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*Action Items*

**Carolyn Devine** will work with Tamara and ODA to get the paperwork started; and will work with Council members to coordinate OISC's involvement in this event.

## **16. TOUR OF THE METOLIUS / RIBBON GRASS PROJECTS**

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The Council visited several sites along the Metolius where the USFS and ODA are working together to treat invasive ribbon grass.

*The meeting was adjourned.*