

# OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL FALL 2015

Quarterly business meeting of the OISC held at Portland State University.

Date: 2015-10-14 08:00:00

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See attendance list at the end of this document.

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## CALL TO ORDER

Wyatt welcomes everyone, thanks Samara for their work to date. Funding is looking pretty good. 150K in the biennium. Things are looking nice, good problem to have. Governor's office is reengaged with the group, Brett Brownscombe will be here today to share with us. Update on the meeting. We managed to get 1.5 hours so we are very appreciative of the Governor's office. They did not say no or yes to our plan so that gives us more time to make changes. The group pointed out some issues with the first draft that we need to deal with but the bottom line is that the office heard our need of money and things are looking up. Work continues on the bylaws so expect changes in the future. And we currently have a real invasive species issues with the recent Asian Gypsy Moth findings, Clinton will get us up to speed on that later.

## AGENDA/LOGISTICS

Jalene identifies the packets and name plates and asks that everyone please sign the attendance sheet going around. We quickly go through introductions, two members are with us over the phone.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JUNE 2015

Robyn moves to approve the minutes and Dominic seconds. All approve the minutes.

## MOTIONS

- Approve minutes from July meeting Proposed by: Robyn Draheim and seconded by Dominic Maze.
- Outcome: All voted to approve.

## OISC BUDGET UPDATE

Chris gave an update on the budget. Looking at the budget report from Roberta, revenue this year which covers two fiscal years. Still trying to get a handle on reporting the difference between fiscal years. \$100,000 in revenue from general funds is currently in the operations fund. We asked Roberta if money from Forest Service is for a specific project, she responded the fact that we need to code the time specifically for those funds. Jalene will follow up with Shawna re: how to report and document this funding and deliverables.

Helmuth reported that they are still working on fiscal year end, not going to return any lottery funds. Charges for ODA personnel to use up the fund because we would lose it. \$51,000 from lottery funds for this biennium, Expenses since June 19, 2015 - travel, office supplies, professional services, etc

About the \$100,000 from general funds, HB 2207 directed funds to go into the control account but instead they went to operations. Been asked the question about why the control account isn't being spent? We need solid funding, but where would funds be useful? Rian: asking for clarity and transparency. Stakeholders to provide answers to. How did LFO direct use of the money, what authority do we have to manage that, and what constraints are we under?

Shawna highlights the importance of finding new funding partners, Mark suggests that we put together a federal agency working group. Robyn notes that a new report will be coming out about how much money each federal agency spends on IS issues, we could possibly use that as a guide.

Sam requests 80 hours of coordinator time and \$1600 extra funds for graphics work to help the legislative toolkit project get finished.

Dominic suggests that we work on our portfolio, show off some of the campaigns that have been successful and point to them as evidence that we are successful. Following up on that Wyatt suggests we could spend money on the AGM issue and the toolkits. In regards to the AGM issue, control account money can be spent on that but it must be requested by an outside group such as ODA.

The council approved spending on the legislative toolkit.

## **MOTIONS**

- Approve \$1600 spending on the legislative toolkit Proposed by: Wyatt Williams and seconded by Dominic Maze.
- Outcome: All voted yes, except federal agency members which abstained

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

Education committee - 3 updates, media contest, legislative toolkit, and thinking about how the council engages in education. It would be nice if we could integrate education into the fabric of what we do.

Media contest ended up being too compressed in time but we still managed to get good media. Legislatures were able to spend a few hours voting on the media content. One standout is the Goldfish video, possible OPB candidate? In the future we need to keep in mind a means to display the final product.

Heath has been working on a legislative toolkit but we are now at the point where we need to put resources into these. We have about 30 stories on to-do lists and only 3 near done. Group is looking for buy in and about \$1600 for graphic designer. Jas suggests that it may be a good idea to focus/group the toolkits on vectors instead of individual taxa.

### **ADVISORY**

Wyatt wants to move on to Advisory group, about 30 people on the list. Sent out a note and doodle poll, heard from 10 people. Oct 28th is the schedule. Mark Sytsma asked them to comment on the external review, he will ask them again. Agenda is to figure out what the committee can and wants to do. Wyatt asked whether Mark S. would like a member of the council at the meeting, Mark S. suggested that Wyatt join.

### **LEGISLATIVE**

Report from Rian, not much new so no new detail. Recalls issues with christmas tree bill and sage grouse money, we did not get either.

Only other issue is with HB2207 and redistribution of penalty money. Verbal discussion with DEQ clearly suggested that the 100K from the general fund should be allocated to the control account. Currently that money is in the operations account and therefore we (DEQ) would like clarity on why that is the case. We are just seeking transparency and so suggests that this might be a good thing for the Council to vote on to make more clear.

Wyatt mentions that the hotel tax might be something that we can pursue on the legislative committee if someone would like to pick it up. Rian would rather see us go a different route, instead come up with what we need money for and present the office with that and let them come up with the means to fund it, or suggestions to explore.

Jas wonders how the economic issues were presented to the board and Jalene suggests that we always put them in the context of past, present and future.

One of the suggestions that the Governor's office had was that we needed more easily digestible material. Cat brings up a project that her and Mark S. are working on that would include students gathering information on legislative issues and compiling into a website.

Robyn points out that we have a lot of content/products that we have developed over the years and a lot of talent in the current coordinating staff. She suggests that we start thinking about how all the products fit into the big picture and build around that. Jim S agrees, comments on the importance of having a good elevator speech to help sell ourselves and that the website is an important aspect of that.

One last point is that turnover is something to think about, we need to be constantly sending our message out.

## **ONGOING INITIATIVES/PROJECT UPDATES**

Clint updates the group on the current effort to keep Asian Gypsy moths out of Oregon. Two Asian Gypsy Moths and two European Gypsy moths have been captured throughout Forest Park and the St. Johns area in Portland. APHIS, the USFS and ODA are currently reviewing the data and determining recommendations for the area.

## **DON'T PACK A PEST**

Sam Chan describes the current project, Don't Pack A Pest, aimed at assessing and changing behaviors responsible for bringing in invasive species through international travel. The target group for this project will be the international student community at the universities throughout Oregon. Wyatt Williams suggests that we may need to consider this to be a punishable offense to deter those that willingly bring in materials.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Add all meeting materials to the OISC website
- Responsible: Christian A Parker
- Finish up the DPAP OISC workplan, coordinate with OSU
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn

## **ASIAN GYPSY MOTH**

Clint updates the group on the current effort to keep European Gypsy Moth (EGM) and Asian Gypsy moths (AGM) out of Oregon. In 2015, two AGM and two EGM moths have been captured in Forest Park, Rivergate, and the St. Johns areas in Portland. A expert technical working group has been convened by APHIS to review the data and determine recommendations for response to AGM finds in the Portland/Vancouver area. AGM represents a greater challenge to containment than the European Gypsy moth due to the females' ability to travel. A gravid female can travel up to 30 miles. Trapping surveys to detect AGM occurs in high risk areas of Oregon and Washington annually. ODA placed about 15,000 traps throughout Oregon in 2015. Communication is highlighted as an important aspect of the project and Robyn Draheim suggests that we get the bioinvasions class involved in some capacity.

## **PRESENTATION: AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN: FROM A (ARTHROPODS) TO Z (ZEBRA/QUAGGA MUSSELS)**

Stephen Bollens from Washington State University shared a presentation defining the need for more effort to look for invasive plankton in the Columbia River. Invasive species such as quagga and zebra mussels pose a serious threat to our infrastructure (e.g. intake pipes) as well as our ecosystem.

## WORKING LUNCH - PARTNER UPDATES

Stephen Bollens presentation was given during lunch and the partner updates were moved to after the presentation. Due to a shortage of time we only allowed quick updates from partners with pressing news to share.

### ACTION ITEMS

- Contact Lindsey Wise about iMap data
- Responsible: Christian A Parker
- Follow up with Shawna about grants and time-tracking
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Follow up with Kevin Plazak about the taxonomic changes to the ringed crayfish
- Responsible: Christian A Parker
- Reach out to Willamette Aquatic Invasives.
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Follow up with Tim Butler
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn

### ACTION ITEMS

- Get more details from Sam Chan on the upcoming NSF meeting
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn

### KEVIN PLAZAK

Kevin reports that there is a new wholesaler that is not doing a good job of not selling invasives. At Rick Boatner's request they are identified as Alliance fish farm and Rick will look into it. Robyn points out that we are also seeing an increase in African Clawed Frogs in Washington right now.

### ACTION ITEMS

- Follow up with Kevin about Alliance fish farm
- Responsible: Christian A Parker

### ROBYN DRAHEIM

We are working on prohibiting a salamander import which is posing a large threat due to a virus found with it. There are a number of webinars going on, will get list to OISC. Still working on the Z/Q rapid response from a federal level.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Maintain list of webinar somewhere on OISC page/drive
- Responsible: Christian A Parker

## **JOHN BROWNING**

John will not be seeking another term on the Council so his seat will be opening up in Jan. (from earlier in the meeting). Also notes that a more aggressive form of Sudden oak death was found a nursery north of Seattle.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Confirm details about SOD strain with John
- Responsible: Christian A Parker

## **WYATT WILLIAMS**

Forest Pest Prevention program is still successful. Sudden Oak death pathologist is retiring and they are now looking for a new one, will be a big loss. Still trying to contain SOD to the one county at a cost of about 1.5 million dollars a year.

## **DAN SHERWIN**

Was just at a meeting in Prineville where he saw a new method to control cheatgrass using a bacterium. Shawna notes it still needs EPA approval.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Follow up with Shawna Bautista about the cheatgrass/EPA information
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn

## **GLENN DOLPHIN**

Tunicate report is planned for completion by year end. Copies of the report will be available. Also created a survey on marine fouling with Cat.

## **SHAWNA BAUTISTA**

Shawna reports that U.S. Forest Service has granted 10K to OISC operations, follow up with her on details about tracking. Also shared a success story where treatments of invasive grass (ribbongrass) in a stream (Metolius) were finally able to be implemented.

## MARK HITCHCOX

OISC is a partner on several APHIS funded projects, and is receiving approx. \$22,000 in farmbill funding to assist with the Don't Pack A Pest evaluation and outreach effort. This 2015 project will continue through the next year by surveying international students to identify opportunities to improve outreach to this particular demographic.

## LINDSEY WISE

Lindsey tells us that it's the annual iMap push for data so if you have any new data to make sure that she gets it.

## RICK BOATNER

Lakeview Station was finally opened up in July, will be able to run Gold Beach and Ontario stations later because of saving from late opening. First occurrence of Ringed Crayfish in the Willamette Valley and there was a Salmonella case due to hatchling Red eared sliders recently.

## DOMINIC MAZE

Found European ear snail in Bybee Park

## HELMUTH ROGG

Stresses that Asian Gypsy Moth is not the only thing going on at ODA. He presents a traps list, there are active weed boards. OISC needs to encourage the Governor's office to make the link between invasive species and water. Native plant conservation program housed at OSU.

## MARK SYTSMA

Mark was elected to the executive committee of the Western Regional Panel. Suggests that we reach out to Willamette Aquatic Invasives, part of the Willamette Riverkeepers.

## **BYLAWS TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Bylaws committee has been hard at work, tasked with reviewing the mission statement, address discussion from the summer meeting, review the INR report and create specific resolutions.

Potentially lost aspect of the mission statement is that there is no entity that deals with the threat of the species as a whole. And the statutes suggest that this is the role of the council. Economy is mentioned numerous times in the statute and so is of great interest to the legislature.

Second part deals with members on the council. Due to complexity of retaining federal seats as appointed members, the group did not draft any resolutions at this point. However, Robyn and Shawna point out that they can't really vote on things and Robyn points out that we want those federal partners around indefinitely and not for four years. Jas - we are going to table this discussion for the next meeting.

Statewide plan (strategic plan) - Statute mandated and a few exist but on review most agreed that the statewide plan is more of an OISC plan. There was a thought that LD's 2010 report could have been a plan but language in its executive summary asking for a statewide plan suggests its not. Mark - Concerned that we are missing a plan written by Dan Hilborn, possibly written in 2004. Mark Nugent was involved.

Initiate statewide strategic plan. Coordinators could possibly do the first 2, number 3 is the hard part but probably the most important.

Rian proposes that we have 2 documents to work on in the next year, an action plan for the council and a strategic plan for the state. Jas is willing to help but does not feel he has the policy experience to lead it. There is some discussion as to what each will do and the thought that they will be guiding documents for both us and the state.

We should for a working group to be working on both documents, in the next 6mos. Wyatt, Rian, Shawna, Mark S, Glenn, Helmuth, and Rick. Jas is going to organize this group

Opening the floor to discussion on the proposed changes to the mission statement.

Rian points out that the mission statement is very broad still and is not properly funded. In other words it's not solving the broadness problem.

Rian, for clarity, because changing members requires change in legislation, the member issue is looking at if we want to write informal letters trying to invite various important stakeholders.

Rian adds that it usually more effective to have something brought forth by a legislature instead of the gov. Kevin adds we have a legislative person on the council we are stuck with them, whereas if we invite them "as needed" we have a better selection power.

Mark S builds on what Kevin said in that when we do the Summit we can invite people and it's worked well in the past. Glenn had a similar idea in that when we have our travel meeting we should invite legislatures from those areas. Possibly we could do this for the next meeting

## **MOTIONS**

- Move to accept the revised mission Proposed by: Sam Chan and seconded by Catherine de Rivera.
- Outcome: All yes
- Move to approve resolution 3 and 4 of the bylaws committee Proposed by: Jeffrey Adams and seconded by Glenn Dolphin.
- Outcome: All vote yes

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Form working groups to start work action and statewide plans
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Consider inviting local legislatures to the next out of town meeting
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Look into the July PNWER meeting in Saskatchewan
- Responsible: Christian A Parker

## **WELCOME FROM THE GOVERNOR'S NATURAL RESOURCE OFFICE**

Brett Brownscombe joins us from the Governor's office. Explains that he will be taking over the invasives issues from Gabriella, and given his background in forestry and restoration, he is very excited for the opportunity to work with the council on an issue that is as large as invasive species.

Jas mentions the recent change regarding the council being a bit more of a state agency than previously thought. Summarizes the afternoon discussion on the bylaws committee in that the role of the OISC is to strategies with the gov issues related to IS

Mark S mentions the oddity of having directors of an agency members in another agency. Jas points out that there is precedence for such a thing as a steering committee made up of directors

Mark S - Do you see a need for the council to focus on current established species or stick to what we do. Brett responds that he needs to get more familiar with what the council does. He would like to hear from the council as to what they think the best direction should be. Jas points out that the statute does mention both. Wyatt adds that we are well set up for citizen science aspect and the hotline.

Mark S - Can you give us a read on her priorities? Brett - She is aware but it's difficult to say at this point. There is a staff retreat later this year where much will be discussed.

## **PLANNING FOR AWARDS BANQUET & DECEMBER MEETING**

Planning for the awards banquet is ongoing. Current plan is for December 14th evening, in Salem, at the Red Lion hotel in Salem. Dom asks about venue, Wyatt explains how we came up with the venue. It's a nice spot with good access.

Requesting participation for award nominations and for new appointed members. Mark, Dominic, John and Jim's seats will all be open. Shawna will also need to reapply for another term. A reminder that the nomination process must goes through the ex-officios but anyone can nominate.

Representation is discussed. Shawna wonders about revising the status of federal agency members and Jas responds that the Bylaws committee is currently trying to address that issue. Dominic feels that plant taxa is well represented and suggests that we look to industry, possibly tourism and/or real estate. Rian suggests that we send out a press release to attract interested groups, possibly trying to attract representatives of the transportation industry.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Set up award nominations conference call
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Draft press release seeking nominations for appointed members
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Draft press release seeking nominations for awards
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn
- Create a google form to handle nominations
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn

## **FINAL THOUGHTS AND MEETING CLOSURE**

Before adjourning Jas suggests that we should address federal member issue at the december meeting.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Add agenda item for next meeting to discuss OISC federal members
- Responsible: Jalene Littlejohn

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **Brett Brownscombe**

Brett.BROWNSCOMBE@oregon.gov  
Oregon Governor's Natural Resource Office

### **Catherine de Rivera**

derivera@pdx.edu  
Portland State University  
Oregon Invasive Species Council

### **Christian Parker**

cparker@talloaks-environmental.com  
Oregon Invasive Species Council  
Samara Group  
Tall Oaks Environmental Research

### **Clint Burfitt**

cburfitt@oda.state.or.us  
Animal Plant Health Inspection Service  
Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Dan Sherwin**

highvalleyenterprises@gmail.com  
High Valley Enterprises  
Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Dominic Maze**

dominic.maze@portlandoregon.gov  
Oregon Invasive Species Council  
Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

**Glenn Dolphin**

glenn.dolphin@state.or.us  
Oregon State Marine Board  
Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Helmuth Rogg**

hrogg@oda.state.or.us  
Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Jalene Littlejohn**

jalene@littlejohnenvironmental.com  
Oregon Invasive Species Council  
Littlejohn Environmental  
Samara Group

**Jeffrey Adams**

jadams@teleport.com  
Willamette University College of Law  
Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Jim Seeley**

jseeley@wildriverscoastalliance.com

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**John Browning**

john.browning@weyerhaeuser.com

Weyerhaeuser

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Kayla-Maria Martin**

martikay@onid.oregonstate.edu

Sea Grant Program

**Keith Brown**

keithb@nwyouthcorps.org

Northwest Youth Corps

**Kevin Plazak**

kplazak@gmail.com

20/20 Tropicals

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Lindsey Wise**

lindsey.wise@pdx.edu

Institute for Natural Resources

**Mark Hitchcox**

mark.E.Hitchcox@aphis.usda.gov

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Mark Sytsma**

sytsmam@pdx.edu

Portland State University

**Quintin Bauer**

quintin@solveoregon.org

SOLVE Oregon

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Rian Hooff**

hooff.rian@deq.state.or.us

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Rick Boatner**

rick.j.boatner@state.or.us

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Robyn Draheim**

Robyn\_Draheim@fws.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Sam Chan**

samuel.chan@oregonstate.edu

Oregon State University

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Shawna Bautista**

sbautista@fs.fed.us

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Oregon Invasive Species Council

**Stephen M. Bollens**

sbollens@wsu.edu

Washington State University

**Wyatt Williams**

wyatt.williams@state.or.us

Oregon Department of Forestry

Oregon Invasive Species Council