

# Oregon Invasive Species Council

## Business Meeting Minutes

### December 10, 2019 | Conference Call

#### Summary of Actions

- Council to send follow-up letter to Senator Merkley, thanking him for his support letter
  - Catherine to touch base with Jalene and Helmuth about Bylaws updates in October 2019 meeting minutes
  - Updated October 2019 meeting minutes to be approved at the next OISC meeting.
  - Helmuth to work on second draft of Chair Rule and will send out to Council for review.
  - Jalene to send out Doodle poll for all 3 in-person 2020 meetings. Will include full day meeting in January and 1.5 day meeting in May or June.
  - Jalene to finish sending inquiries to federal agencies to ask for their representation
  - Catherine to send out updated bylaws to Council.
  - Send thank you letters to Senator Roblan and Representative McKeown for their support.
  - Update language in Communication Plan
  - See if students from Catherine's class are available to give a presentation on the interactive map project during future Council meeting.
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#### Welcome & Introductions

*Helmuth Rogg, 2019 OISC Chair*

Welcome to the last 2019 OISC meeting. Two new council members attending: Representative Sherrie Sprenger from Oregon House District 17 and Noel Bacheller with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Welcome to the group. Their official term starts January 1, 2020.

#### Approval of October 2019 Meeting Minutes

- Dave Pranger: On page 17 under my presentation, says that the *Arundo* project included 30,000 - 60,000 irrigated acres. That is what it would have been if the project moved forward. Should say pilot project included about 100 irrigated acres.
- Glenn: On pages 5 and 7, Oregon rapid response exercise will be in May 2020, not July 2020.
- Michelle: Under Cheryl Shippentower's presentation, should be "forbs" not "forbes".
- Cat: Bylaws update missing information?
  - Jalene: I think Bylaws Committee updates were discussed elsewhere in the minutes.
  - Cat: Jalene, Helmuth, and I can touch base about outcomes of Bylaws update.
- Christine: On page 8, update spelling of grasses.
- Michelle: In the Communications Committee update, we should specify "Communications Chair".

*Q (Jalene): Christine, on Page 7, did you say didendum or different species?*

*A (Christine): Yes, I think that's correct.*

*Q (Jalene): Rick, on page 11, did you say that Summit Creek wasn't contaminated because it wasn't*

connected?

A (Rick): Correct, not connected.

Q (Jalene): Did you have an update on ringed crayfish that should have been included?

A (Rick): No, no updates.

Q (Christine): Did we respond back to the letter from Senator Merkley?

A (Helmuth): Good point. We need to respond. Better late than never.

Q (Jalene): Should we make edits to October 2019 minutes and then bring back to group to approve?

A (Helmuth): Take another look at minutes over the next few days. Will vote on October 2019 minutes at next meeting.

Outcomes:

- Council to send a follow-up letter to Senator Merkley, thanking him for his support.
- Catherine to touch base with Jalene and Helmuth about the Bylaws update in October 2019 meeting minutes.
- Updated October 2019 meeting minutes to be approved at the next OISC meeting.

## Chair Updates: Chair/Vice-Chair Admin Rule and Coordinator Contract

*Helmuth Rogg, 2019 OISC Chair*

Helmuth sent Jalene language from October meeting discussion to inform the rule language. The Oregon Department of Agriculture has a Rules Coordinator in-house, and we will consult with the DOJ. Once we agree on language, we will send it to Renee. We can move a lot of details into the bylaws if we want to. The OISC has it in statute about how we currently select Chair. Took some of that terminology and moved it into rule. Language reflects what the Council agreed on. Vacancy language says that we can appoint a person to fill in, as needed. Can finalize over the next few days and will send out after I have a more complete draft. Please send comments.

Q (Michelle): I think this language looks good. Covers bases without putting too much of a box around things. I did want to ask, what happens if we don't have someone nominated to become Chair? We will have a lot of turnover this coming year, a lot of new members. What's our backup plan? Do we need to put that in writing?

A (Helmuth): Running into that issue right now with National Plant Board. No, don't need to put in writing right now. This could take a few months.

A (Glenn): Can maybe write that in the Bylaws. Build on vacancy language from Rule " ex officio voting member shall make appointment ...."

Council discussion about filling Vice Chair and Chair positions:

- Glenn: We discussed filling Vice Chair position, and then Vice Chair moves into the Chair position.
- Cat: Difficult for people who are serving 2 years. No one will be an officer in their first year on the Council.
- Glenn: I see what you are saying. If someone skips first year, becomes Vice Chair 2nd year, no guarantee that they will be on the Council the following year to be Chair.
- Michelle: We can open nominations process up a little earlier so we know who will be on the Council.
- Jalene: I think this was part of the conversation with having February 1st the start date for the new Vice Chair and Chair.
- Helmuth: If we have an in-person meeting in late Fall, we should start the process then for

nominations. Can do the rest by email or conference call and then vote. Can submit nominations before last in-person meeting of the year, do election during last call (December).

- Rick: Can put language on how you progress as officer in bylaws.
- Michelle: What about the scenario for someone who only wants to be on Council for 2 years, but they feel like they are a strong leader? Vice Chair first year and Chair second year.
- Glenn: Limitless scenarios, but it's unlikely that someone would be Vice Chair their first year.
- Michelle: Sounds good. I just wanted to make sure we were thinking about all the angles.
- Helmuth: I'm going to work on 2nd draft and will send out. Please review. Still haven't heard from Rian.
- Rian: I'm ready to review.

*Q (Helmuth): Cat, can you hang in there until about March?*

*A (Cat): Yes, March 2020.*

Outcome: Helmuth to work on second draft of Chair Rule and will send out to Council for review.

## 2020 Planning: Meeting & Event Calendar, Council Work Plan Outline, Membership & Orientation (Appointed, Federal, Legislative / GNRO)

*Helmuth Rogg, 2019 OISC Chair*

Hopefully we will have a new Coordinator contract in place by January 1st, 2020. Looking forward to working with Samara Group again.

### **2020 Meeting & Event Calendar**

Jalene: I took what we talked about at the October meeting and put it into a spreadsheet where we can track events, milestones and other activities. Kickoff meeting at the beginning of the year, paired with committee meetings, central coast or central Oregon meeting in May, September meeting in Portland, and end of year conference call. Field tours do need to be localized, we have 6 regions now coming into the new year. Could pair with other events that we were already planning.

Group discussion about meeting planning:

- Glenn: When should we decide the location of the May meeting? Coast vs. Central Oregon.
- Cat: Haven't really engaged in the past on how we decide locations to make sure we represent different parts of the state. Open to hearing what we've been doing.
- Jalene: Central Oregon may be good since it's in the middle of the state.
- Michelle: Bend would be the first choice.
- Karen: Dave did such a good job of coordinating the Boardman meeting. Is there a local champion that would really like to showcase their area?
- Rick: Central Oregon is developing an aquatic invasive species group, so that might be something to go with. They had their first meeting last week. They call it an Aquatic Invasive Species Partner Working Meeting.
- Glenn: During their breakout session, they highlighted the OISC's Action Plan as a great road map on how to move forward with coordinated invasive species management objectives. Rick's idea of partnering with them is a good idea. Current dates put us up to Memorial weekend, and would propose the first week of June instead.
- Rian: I wanted to note, regarding the proposed February meeting, that it's during the short

session. Very difficult to get participation during this time. May want to consider the week before (January 27, 2020). That would put us between legislative days and the beginning of session.

- Sherrie: Anything during the session is really tough. I'm pretty sure I wouldn't make it.

*Q (Glenn): How's the last week of January?*

*A (Sherrie): Things can still be busy before. You could do well that week, the closer to Monday the better.*

- Rian: Since this is aiming to be a kickoff meeting, we should try to get as much participation as possible.
- Sherrie: In addition to legislative session, legislative days should also be added to calendar.
- Glenn: Not that far away. Would recommend we vote today and notify everybody. Early February doesn't look like it's going to work. We should send out notes to Council to see if the majority of folks can attend that week.
- Rick: I'll check to see if ODFW is available on January 27th or 28th.
- Rian: Suggest we put together a Doodle poll for January meeting and May/June meeting. If we do June, that will put us at 4 months between meetings.
- Glenn: Send out Doodle poll for first week of May.
- Michelle: Want feedback on availability of New Council members too.
- Jalene: I will send out a Doodle poll for all 3 meetings.

*Q :How does the new member orientation meeting work?*

*A (Jalene): They are individual in-person or conference call meetings. We will also have mentors with the new members.*

### **Council Work Plan Outline**

Limited funds to run Council and activities. Need to be clear about what we want the Coordinator to do. Once we have a contract and SOW, we can throw back out to Council members to make sure we are in agreement. Can also adjust as we go. Can add to agenda for January meeting. As long as work falls under the SOW, that's fine. Helmuth will work with Cat and Jalene before the next meeting. Can approve and fine tune.

Group discussion about Council work plan:

- Jalene: At last meeting, I heard that we would not be doing a Summit in 2020.
- Rian: I'm in favor of forgoing the Summit this year and putting efforts in to regional events
- Helmuth: The point was to look for a different model. What is the impact of the Summit? Need to look at a different approach. We can evaluate at the end of next year to see how that worked.
- Glenn: Summit has been costly in the past. That was also part of that consideration.
- Annie: Regional meeting or field trip? There has been a low turnout for field trips in the past.
- Helmuth: Can leave it to regional partners to lead efforts.
- Jalene: Would be up to the regional partner to decide the best structure. Can talk more about how we can support them.

### **Membership & Orientation (Appointed, Federal, Legislative / GNRO)**

ODA Deputy Director inquired with GNRO. They will inquire with folks at the Governor's office and legislature. Thousands of laws that folks have to follow. A lot of things may not rise to the level. Hopefully we will have some answers here soon. As soon as I hear something, I will send it out through listserv.

Group discussion about membership:

- Sherrie: I would suggest, if you haven't already, to touch base with the Speaker of the House and Senate President. Always results in someone getting appointed fairly quickly.
- Helmuth: Will inquire again.
- Jalene: I plan to send a welcome letter to appointed members today. Looking to connect with mentors of new members at that point.

*Q (Helmuth): How many new members that haven't had any contact with OISC before?*

*A (Jalene): 6 people, 2 are returning Council members.*

*Q (Michelle): Do you need assistance with orientation materials, binder?*

*A (Jalene): Yes, I would also love to have ideas to update materials.*

- Helmuth: Jalene also sending out letters to federal agencies to ask for their representation.
- Jalene: I have questions about a few agencies that I don't have contacts for. Need help with those.

Outcomes:

- Jalene to send out a Doodle poll for all 3 in-person 2020 meetings. Will include a full day meeting in January and 1.5 day meeting in May or June.
- Jalene to finish sending inquiries to federal agencies to ask for their representation

## Advisory Committee Updates

*Cat de Rivera, Portland State University*

Not much done since last meeting. Looking forward to working with regional partners after the first of the year.

## Governance Committee Updates

*Cat de Rivera, Portland State University*

We didn't vote on bylaws at last meeting because there are still open ended issues. We also have a bunch of people joining at one time and ending at one time. Balance isn't ideal. Minor updates to bylaws, I will send those out.

Outcome: Cat to send out updated bylaws to Council.

## Education Committee Updates

- Jalene: Sam isn't on the call but I can say that education grants are open. As we get into January, we will be doing more outreach. Looking to help Sam schedule the next committee meeting.
- Helmuth: Tristen is handling applications at ODA. Word is out and lots of interest.
- Glenn: Grants were brought up at the partnership meeting. WAIN sent it out on their listserv and had it on their agenda too.

## Budget/Funding Committee Updates

*Helmuth Rogg, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture*

We have funding and a balanced budget. We will pick that up once we have a final work plan. Can continue discussion at the next meeting. For the \$100,000 we received for education grants, we can report back to Senator Roblan that the money was well spent.

- Glenn: Propose we send a thank you letter to Senator Roblan and Representative McKeown for their support.

Outcome: Send thank you letters to Senator Roblan and Representative McKeown for their support.

## Communications Committee Updates

*Michelle Delepine, West Multnomah SWCD*

We had a good discussion and breakout at the October meeting. I updated the Communications Plan with feedback I got during that meeting, clarifying roles and responsibilities, key messages, etc. and sent out to the Communications Committee and full Council. I welcome feedback on that, feel free to email. As we update the Council template PowerPoint, can include those key messages. Any feedback at this time?

- Rian: I know it's tough to balance inclusivity without being comprehensive. I would suggest updating language under tribes to say "9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon" rather than listing some of them.
  - Michelle: I can update that.
- Glenn: Great start Michelle. Suggest we do a press release in mid January to highlight the new members that are joining the Council, announces meetings, and includes key messages.
- Jalene: I think it would also be nice to include types of invasive species or impacts to the groups listed under Key Message #1.

We also worked on an interactive map with Cat's class. Recorded presentation. Can adapt and include more examples. Will be able to link to that easily on the OISC website.

*Q (Cat): Would Council like to see presentation during meeting, if they are available?*

*A (Michelle): Yeah, that's a good idea. Thank you to council members for working with the students to put that together.*

Outcomes:

- Update language in Communications Plan under Tribes to say "9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon".
- See if students from Catherine's class are available to give a presentation on the interactive map project during future Council meeting.

## Legislative Committee Updates

*Rian Hooff, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality*

Not a lot to report. Last legislative days were in mid November. I was busy with water quality presentations. Not aware of any informational sessions specific to invasive species. May not see agenda

for next legislative days (January 13-15, 2020) until a week or two before. TBD in terms of if we have introduced bills that we might have an interest in.

*Q (Michelle): Any sense of cap and trade being introduced?*

*A (Rian): Ongoing discussion, TBD. Other major topics are wildfire issues and water in general. 100 year vision continues to be a topic of discussion.*

Agencies have already started the process of drafting ask for next biennium. Want that to be on people's radar. Not too early to start talking about that.

Additional Discussion:

- Michelle: Survey for 100 year water vision open until the end of week. Closes at 5pm on Friday.
- Glenn: Still on Working Group for climate change adaptation framework. Couple page summary was distributed and presentation on the project during legislative days. Will continue to advocate for invasive species topics. There is talk about agencies coming up with action plans and how an agency would deal with climate change issues.
- Helmuth: Climate change and invasive species are linked. Fires in California are linked to invasive grasses. We knew that a long time ago. Invasive species are directly linked to fire and water. Very important aspect of these topics. Needs to be part of vision. Need to work on messaging (fire, water, global climate change, invasive species).

## Regional / National Updates: WGA, Western Invasive Species Council, Others

*Helmuth Rogg, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture*

I was appointed by the Governor to represent Oregon on the Western Invasive Species Council. We've had one call so far. Justin Bush (Washington) is Chair and Stephanie Criswell (Montana) is Vice Chair. Same situation, rotate in and out. Bill Whitacre sent out a few projects he thinks the Western Invasive Species Council should work on, so we can have input on that.

The United Nations declared 2020 as the year of plant health. Each country will have their own national event. The U.S. will have one in Washington D.C. in August where we will celebrate that. The whole point is to see what we do with our work. Make people aware of how important our work is.

National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) is the last week of February. We don't have state invasive species awareness week. Wouldn't it be great to celebrate this at the state level? Maybe we can work with the Governor to declare the week once we have a representative.

- Annie: Would be nice to pair with regional tours or education & outreach events.
- Jalene: We have a NISAW page on the OISC website. We can amplify that now with regional seats.
- Helmuth: If it works out for next year, great. We've got to have invasive species awareness week in Oregon.

Group discussion about other regional invasive species topics:

- Michelle: The Pacific Northwest Garlic Mustard Working Group met in November. Rekindled connection to Alaska. Moving forward with developing a garlic mustard plan and working on

revising IPM matrix. Collectively brings together all the information into one document. Working with Troy Abercrombie to get things rolling again with Western Invasives Network.

- Helmuth: government to government meeting in Pendleton last week. Concerns about gorse biocontrol efforts that ODA is working on with Oregon State University. Next meeting is in March. They want a presentation by Joel Price with ODA about the topic.
- Rian: I had to be out of room for part of that agenda item. Christina Hixby is not close enough to details to answer all of their questions. It is an issue of concern to tribal members/tribal governments and they want more information.

*Q (Glenn): What were the concerns?*

*A (Helmuth): There is an area on the coast that is a sacred place that is currently protected by gorse. They don't want that to go away. Can ask Representative McKeown about the issue and can hopefully clarify concerns.*

## Closing Comments

- Michelle: This is my official last meeting as a Council member. I want to thank everyone for allowing me to be a part of the Council for the last four years. I'm excited about where we are headed and the next chapter with regional representation. I'll stay engaged as much as possible.
- Helmuth: Thank you all for hanging in this year. This is my last meeting as Chair. During the second half of the year, we delegated lots of work to Committees and I appreciate that. Chair and Vice chair can't do it all. Handing over to new Chair.
- Cat: Thank you, Helmuth. Very glad Samara Group is continuing.
- Michelle: Committees taking on bulk of projects is a great way to go. Really nice way to increase membership and get things done.
- Helmuth: Happy holidays and happy new year. See you all next year!

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## Attendees

Noel Bacheller, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department  
Annie Blietz, Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Rick Boatner, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife  
Jake Bodart, Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Nicole Brooks, US Customs & Border Protection  
Kris Crowley, Wallowa Resources  
Michelle Delepine, West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District  
Glenn Dolphin, Oregon State Marine Board  
Rian Hooff, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
Jalene Littlejohn, Samara Group  
Erin McConnell, Bureau of Land Management  
Christine Moffitt, 2019 OISC Member  
Dave Pranger, Morrow County  
Karen Ripley, USDA Forest Service  
Cat de Rivera, Portland State University  
Helmuth Rogg, Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Representative Sherrie Sprenger, Oregon House District 17