

Oregon Invasive Species Council

OISC Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2021 | Virtual (1:00 - 4:30 pm)

Summary of Outcomes:

- June 2021 meeting minutes were approved.
 - The Council approved allowing the Education and Outreach Committee to define and amend terminology on the Invasive Species Hub.
 - The Information Hub working group needs reviewers for species profiles.
 - Publishing of the Invasive Species Information Hub was approved.
 - Jalene will finalize and post the 2020 annual report.
 - ODA will clarify how lottery funds roll over into the next biennium budget.
-

Welcome & Introductions

Rick Boatner, 2021 OISC Chair (Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife)

See participants list at the end of the minutes.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: June 2021

Rick Boatner, 2021 OISC Chair (Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife)

- (Troy Abercrombie): minor grammar and misspellings but content is good.

Eugene Wier moved to accept June 2021 meeting minutes.

2nd: Dave Pranger

All voting members approved.

OISC Invasive Species Information Hub

Nikki Brooks, Customs and Border Protection

Jalene Littlejohn, Samara Group

- The working group started in January 2020
- The working group has been building off of the formerly published “Worst Invaders” list which needed to be updated to be a more useful tool. The purpose of the list was often misunderstood, no clear cut criteria for what species were added or removed.
- Working group goals include: Create an updated sortable/searchable cross taxa resource that organizes key information for users to create their own “lists”.
- Meets the expressed need of invasive species practitioners as well as services to implement the Oregon Statewide Strategic Plan
- The group is prioritizing communicating information in 2 ways:
 1. *Active alerts*: specific species alerts or calls to action (i.e. Marimo Moss balls). Active alerts organized at the top of the landing page.

2. *Early detection*: species that are not in Oregon or contained/limited distribution. Not capping the number of species records that are added. The group is phasing content development and publishing starting with species that are in the recently published Primer and the set of Watch List species created by a PSU Bioinvasions team of students.
 - The published records will display on the OISC website (embedded) and the user can manipulate the table, sort, filter, and download information into a CSV.
- The Working Group is looking to build lists of taxa experts for content development and/or review of records for accuracy and up to date information.
- Jalene outlined a draft publishing process for the OISC to consider:
 - New content
 - i. Species record content created/compiled by coordinator or working group member
 - ii. Set of species records sent to the relevant taxa review team members for input/edits
 - iii. Final content to be approved by agency lead for that taxa group
 - iv. Published on a rolling basis pending final approval by agency lead(w/o waiting for a full OISC meeting for approval). Enables a quick response to emerging issues.
 - Edits
 - i. Editing and regular review will be important to keep information up to date
 - OISC may choose to review the hub annually to ensure quality of information and identify if there is any content that should be discussed in further detail, otherwise the coordinator and hub working group continues operations as usual.
- Next Steps
 - The working group would like to publish the hub
 - i. First, the alerts
 - ii. Then, all first phase priority species identified in the primer by end of 2021
 - Next, publish the rest of the former worst list. Goal: publish incrementally each quarter (to reduce review burden)
 - It is a great role for the coordinator to enhance and maintain this hub

Chat (Brendan White): This looks GREAT!

Chat(Lindsey Wise): love a searchable database

Troy: Looks great, good investment in Airtable, gallery view is really impactful

Q(Karen Ripley): Is there a list of the agency leads or taxa experts? Are there current gaps in that list? Is that up to date? Do they have freedom to work with coordinators to get species into alert category quickly

A(Jalene): I have a form that I can follow up for reviewer roles. I want to outreach to some specific people about reviewer roles. Need to follow up with agency leads. I would like there to be a process to send alerts, they roll off quarterly unless there is another alert that comes up.

Q(Karen Ripley): I wonder if you can set up the fields to have specific seasons?

A(Jalene): I can consider a field that highlights months

Q(Troy A): Are we looking for a motion of some sort on the hub?

Wyatt: I am willing to review any forest pests, pathogens, good job.

Chuck Fisk moved to allow the Education and Outreach Committee to define and amend terminology on Hub.

2nd: Troy Abercrombie

All voting members approved.

Chuck Fisk moved to publish Invasive Species Information Hub.

2nd: Troy Abercrombie

All voting members approved.

OISC Budget

Isaak Stapleton, Oregon Department of Agriculture

Rick Boatner, 2021 OISC Chair (Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife)

Appropriations for this biennium are all lottery funds \$159,777. We had some carry over from previous years. The only expense that came out of the emergency control account was the apple maggot work. Looks like we have had a couple of expenses for the coordinator role. No general fund dollars were appropriated for AY23 (Roberta).

Q(Troy): Just as a refresher, when we talk about lottery funds carryover, this is just subtracted from total and then the pot is filled back up to what we need right?

A(Roberta): Carry over for emergency fund is what remains after AY21 activity is recorded, AY19 + any revenue. With operations funds the carry over consists of any federal funds and awards received but not expended. Allowed to carry over cash from one biennium to the next. Funds that are still available on top of anything that you have for AY23.

(Rick): General fund does not carry over. We use it or we lose it.

Q(Noel Bacheller): It doesn't show apple maggot?

A(Isaak): It is not on this biennium report (last biennium's report)

Q(Karen): No federal money on books from federal partners. That has all been spent?

A(Roberta): No, we haven't received anything yet in AY23, so anything that was not expended is part of that carry over amount.

Q(Troy): Statement from Roberta seems contrary to what we talked about last time about roll over of lottery funds. That regardless of where that money came from, anything rolled over is cash that doesn't add to the new allocation. Our cup fills to a certain point and is not allowed to overflow. Yes money rolls over, but is not on top of allocation.

Q(Troy): Roberta, can you clarify that?

A(Roberta): If we have carry over in lottery funds, they may increase the limitation to allow us to spend those dollars in the new biennium. I need to verify with Adam how much transfer in dollars we get from OWEB for invasive species.

A(Isaak): You can't build a war chest of lottery funds. Generally subtract that from appropriations or what they were going to give you to begin with. We will clarify that.

Proposed Budget Development

- Budgeting 2021-2023 (Rick)
 - Need to balance "what we have" and "what we want" to achieve
 - Identify priority projects and where we need to fill gaps in funding

- Isaak: for the next biennium, ODA starts discussing budget requests right after the prior legislative session begins. We need to have the budget package together by the end of June. Need to know what our “asks” are at that point.
 - First part of budget is for coordinator
 - S and S funds: MOU, rent equipment
 - Events & Meetings
 - Office supplies, hotlines
 - Priority projects
 - Promotions, public meetings
 - If we were to run this exercise, draft totals would look like:
 - Personnel/contractual:\$175,000
 - supplies/projects:\$175,196.70
 - Total: personnel+supplies projects \$350,196.70

Q(Isaak): Where did the original \$175,000 come from the original council? Why was that set?

A(Rick): Originally was \$150,000, when you go above that there are other things associated with it. According to Helmuth it was the magic number.

Q(Isaak): So there are more strings attached with a larger contract?

A(Rick): Yes.

Q(Chuck): How does this shortfall compare to others in the past. Is this ordinary?

A(Rick): We have never done a line item. We have been given money and we work with it.

A(Jalene): the gap lines up neatly with priorities like an emergency account.

(Rick): Decisions need to be made, do we want to add staff members onto this? By state law, we have to do a 10% reduction when we present it. The Governor may reduce it, so have to go back through legislators to get those funds back.

(Isaak): As soon as the governor puts out her budget, we have to wait and support that budget. We can't lobby legislators to fill perceived gaps.

Q(Jas): I looked at the MOU language. Even after the governor has put out her budget. Should not be advocating for their budget over the council's budget. Conflict of interest. Suggest that it is spelled out in MOU. We want council members not to be working against the budget behind the scenes.

Coordinator Contract Update

The Request for Proposals for the OISC coordinator contract is ready to go. It will be published October 15, 2021.

Q(Rick): how long will it be open?

A(Isaak): I don't know. I can get that information later.

Chat(Isaak): RFP is open for 30 days.

Apple Maggot Emergency Funding Distribution

Presentation by Todd Adams, Oregon Department of Agriculture

- The Fly threatens the Milton-Freewater region. Not widespread.
- Survey Methods & Results:
 - Yellow protein baited sticky trap
 - Traps are placed July 1st, removed early October
 - Traps are checked and replaced every 2 weeks. Lures replaced every 4 weeks

- 3 positive apple maggot detections in 2020
- Roughly 250 traps deployed in the Milton-Freewater area
- 50-60 traps placed in a ½ mile radius circle around each positive detection
- Trap removal should conclude Oct 18th.

2021 activities:

- 2 positive apple maggot trap catches in Milton-Freewater, 8 positive in Pendleton
- 2 catches were within ½ mile of detections in 2020
- SCBG funds were used from March 17, 2021-September 29, 2021
- OISC emergency funds used starting September 30, 2021

What does Success look like?

- Flies can be dormant for 3 years or potentially more, therefore 3 years of negative trap detections are needed to demonstrate success

Further steps needed:

- Continued apple maggot detection trapping yearly, delimit any positive trap catches
- Eradicate the apple maggot population in Pendleton
- Feral apple tree identification and removal in Milton-Freewater and Pendleton will be needed to prevent hotspots for apple maggot proliferation
- Feral tree removal is key, as it is thought that the sprays for codling moths on apples are protecting the apples from Apple Maggot

Q(Lindsey): Is English Hawthorn a possible reservoir for these flies also?

A(Todd): Could potentially be, so far that hasn't been an issue because this is along the Walla Walla River.

Q(Chuck): There was a trap on my feral apple in Lane county. Is that part of this program?

A(Todd): No trapping on the west side, so not us.

Q(Troy): Can you speak to the council funds and how it helped the project?

A(Todd): Would have been finished on Sept 29, and we wouldn't have been able to continue the project's trapping efforts. Can keep pest free status with continued action.

Q(Troy): Would like tie this back into budget conversation and think about a request for replenishment of funds to the emergency control account, at least for this project if nothing else. This example shows us the importance of moving swiftly on these projects. Funds have only gone down since we got them. The OISC needs to focus on keeping that account full and use opportunities like this to demonstrate its importance.

OISC Meetings Calendar

Jalene outlined the current options for 2022 meetings per the poll participants to date. Additional council members will provide input following the meeting on the following dates:

- January(Virtual) 11th or 25th.
- March - MidCoast (in person) 7-8th or 14-15th
- June(virtual) : June 14th
- October - Central Oregon (in-person): **** no best option yet****
- December(virtual): 6th or 7th

Chat(Christine): Travel reimbursement is news to me.

Jalene: To get travel reimbursement, contact Annie at ODA and keep a copy of your receipts to get reimbursed!

Chat(Annie): There are new per diem rates as of Oct 1st this year. So I can supply the new forms too.

2022 Appointed Membership Nominations & Officer Elections Timeline

Jalene Littlehohn, Samara Group, OISC Coordinator

Nominations have come in for all seats except:

- Dave Pranger's Eastern Oregon seat
- Portland Metro area seat

Next on the timeline is to nominate candidates for 2022 Chair and Vice-Chair for next year.

Committees & Working Group Open Items

2020 Annual report

Jalene: the annual report is pretty much done; we will follow up with copy after the meeting.

Karen: We had less content in the 2020 pandemic, but the Samara Group made it look great, very consistent with past reports. Can we possibly do an email review and vote to publish on the website.

Troy: We can't do electronic voting, can do vote ahead of time pending minor edits

Karen: Should we discuss whether the council would be comfortable publishing without final review?

Christine: We could direct the Executive Committee to do it. Shorter/Faster review.

Karen: This is not meant to be private, you can let me know if you object to anything and we can always fix it.

Christine Moffitt moves to approve in concept the annual report, but grant the Executive Committee the final review of it prior to publication on the website.

2nd: Eugene Wier

All voting members approved.

Regional Webinars/Workshops

Oregon Coast webinar

- Hasn't been a lot of progress on getting that webinar scheduled
- Troy and Christine have been talking about partners and true concerns for stakeholders on the coast
- Reached out to coastal invasive species committee (Canadian group)
 - Hoping to get feedback from them about issues that need to be highlighted
- Webinar would probably be scheduled for early 2022.
- If anyone is dealing with coastal invasive species, be on this team to help with this. Help to create inroads for local policy makers. A lot of turnover in coastal caucus members.

Chat(Sam Chan): I can assist Christine on coastal work

Chat(Karen): which counties are you targeting?

A(Troy): any county west of coast range crest, but some flexibility there.

Chat(Sam Chan): Do we have any dates for planning the coastal field trip? Very strong webinar fatigue, low attendance these days. Field trip setting would bring in more stakeholders.

A(Troy): mid coastal meeting on the books, can move that to accommodate those meetings

A(Christine): could have 2 pronged approach and roll it into webinar. With 2 different geographies

Chuck: I attended a conference in person, most people showed because they were just excited to be going somewhere. Minority were those that were virtual.

Strategic Plan Working Group

Jas. Adams

- It has been impossible to implement this effort due to budget issues.
- Would like to see a shift in resources for short term and long term strategic plan
- Try again when resources are in a better state of affairs.

Legislative Committee

Christine Moffitt

Christine Moffitt: We still do not have an Oregon State Senator that is assigned as a liaison to our council. Jas. approached Lew Frederick, who was recommended by Chair of Energy, Kathleen Taylor.

- Committee members will continue to follow up with Senate President Courtney and Sen. Frederick.

Education & Outreach Committee

Sam Chan

We've also been trying to nail down a budget for education grants. Challenging for the Education & Outreach Committee when, 16 months later, we are still in the same place.

Work Plan to Wrap up 2021

Priorities

- Outreach and education
 - How to move to Oregon materials
 - Invasive Species Information Hub
 - Calendar for 2022
 - Strategic Plan Dashboard
 - Website organization to pass along
 - 2020 Annual Report + 2021 Annual Report Template
 - Package Design Files
- Chair & Vice chair
 - Elections of 2022 Officers
 - Pass the gavel meeting between 2021 and 2022 leadership
 - Confirm 2022 committee chairs
- Membership
 - 2022 committee rosters

- 2022 member directory
- 2022 new member orientations
- Budget and Funding
 - 2021-2023 budget
 - Outline funding needs / priority projects
- Documentation of procedures, files, historical information
- Draft 2022 committee work plans

Q(Rick): any other priorities that Samara Group needs to do before the end of the year?

Q(Sam): regarding moving pamphlets, engaging Travel Oregon could be a useful tool

A(Jalene): they are on the list as far as education and outreach goes, but I don't know how to approach that before the end of the year. Council can use the available information and decide what to do with it in the new year.

A(Jalene): In terms of getting things done, a lot of these things are in process, so not all of these tasks are being started from scratch.

(Rick): Deadline for adding new tasks for Samara Group is November 1st so they can complete everything by the end of the year.

Q(Karen): is there likely to be any overlap with the next coordinator to hand off the work?

A(Rick): partly depends on when we get this setup, before Helmuth left, we could probably go in and make a quick contract to make a smooth transfer.

A(Jalene): We are doing everything we can for a smooth transition.

Q(Troy): Can we put together a short contract?

A(Isaak): Yes, depending on Jalene's availability

Q(Troy): Does that come out of the budget for the next coordinator?

A(Isaak): Yes.

Q(Jas): Are we really sure that this money has to come out of next year's budget? Are we not overlooking possible sources of funds?

A(Isaak): There are emergency funds.

Jas: It's not coordinator work, but council to ease transition of our entire structure. Maybe we could couch it a different way so we aren't stuck under budget constraints for coordinator position

Troy: There was a \$400K surplus from ODA. Is there money available?

Isaak: There is no surplus. Noxious weeds had that allocated to them.

Troy: We had 100k pulled from the budget for the pandemic. Any opportunity to get replenishment of those funds for the council knowing this would be a fairly small contract?

Isaak: Good question. Would have to contact the director's office because that money was to go towards noxious weeds work.

chat(Sam): A prioritized table and short narrative for sharing with the higher-ups and potential funders of benefits and what is needed for completion would really help. For example, Sea Grant has program/project development mini grants of up about \$7000 after overhead

Noel: are we up against the \$150,000 contract maximum?

Jalene: An extension of our contract would push up against the contract max, but there is some flexibility. We have to remember that the \$150,000 maximum that we are talking about is for each individual contract.

Rick: We do have federal funds that we could apply to this.

Cat: Sell it as saving money to make the transition efficient.

Jalene: In theory, this is not a new issue. The council should be ready to put out funds for a transition at the end of every contract because it goes out for competitive bid and change is possible.

Memorandum of Understanding with Oregon Department of Agriculture Catherine de Rivera, Portland State University

- The group is trying to fill in ODA's roll and also what OISC's responsibilities are in this MOU
- There has been additional feedback on the draft MOU that needs to be shared with the full OISC.
- The working group will meet with ODA about where there are agreements and disagreements and will bring that back to the council at the next meeting if it is available
- Renee has seen our draft and ODA's draft and now we need to meet and come to an agreement about what additions go in.
- We have high hopes for the final collaborative product

Jas: this could be much simpler and shorter than it is since it is an agreement between two state agencies, it could be conceptual rather than so based on statutes

A(Cat): The framing of the statutes was originally put in by Renee and the MOU committee really liked it because there's not always awareness of what is in statute. Can hand it to new members so they know what key roles.

Jas: very good point, DOJ will go and make sure it agrees, you will quibble over small things on this if you paraphrase statutes. Leave statutes alone and it will be easier to come to an easier agreement.

Cat: I thought it would be helpful to remind us, but you may be right. Renee wrote that. I didn't think it was something to quibble over.

Jas: I thought Renee had said ODA wouldn't interpret it as legal analysis. Crucial part of the MOU is the agreement part and just make sure the wording isn't contrary because it will be harder to get approval.

Troy: I think in principle we all agree on this topic. Some of the things we put in here were to ensure they were being met to our satisfaction, drive home that there are things that aren't getting done to the level we want or they want. Not being written for lawyers, it is for the council and ODA.

Jas: Renee is the go between DOJ and ODA. Can be phrased in plain language.

Chat(Christine): lets just see where this goes, DOJ started with the statutes references for our benefit.

Cat: if we get distracted we will take them out.

Jas: add provision about the MOU can only be terminated by both parties mutually.

Isaak: having the MOU set up expectations for both sides, can make provisions down the road.

Troy: I think it's important to remember that this has been a collaborative process.

Jas: avoid global definitive statements.

Isaak: Lisa Hanson's last day with ODA was 2 weeks ago. Lauren is deputy director. Isaak is interim director and so there will be more shuffling of positions.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Announcement: Erin McConnell is going to be leaving OISC as she has accepted another position within BLM. BLM wants to remain part of the council, but it'll take a year to fill the position.

Action Items & Next Meeting

See summary list of actions/outcomes at the top of minutes. Next OISC Meeting is December 8, 2021.

Meeting Participants

Council Members

Troy Abercrombie, Western Invasives Network
Jas. Adams, Public Member
Noel Bacheller, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department
Rick Boatner, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Nikki Brooks, US Customs and Border Protection
Josh Emerson, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
E. Chuck Fisk, F5 Wildlife Control
Dave Pranger, Morrow County
Karen Ripley, USDA Forest Service
Alex Staunch, Mosaic Ecology
Eugene Wier, The Freshwater Trust
Brendan White, US Fish & Wildlife Service
Jake Bodart, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Wyatt Williams, Oregon Department of Forestry
Cherly Shippentower, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Glenn Dolphin, Oregon State Marine Board
Erin McConnell, Bureau of Land Management
Isaak Stapleton, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Christine Moffitt, University of Idaho
Sam Chan, Oregon Sea Grant **logged on at 2:30pm*
Catherine de Rivera, Portland State University **logged on at 3:30pm*

Council Members Excused: Tim Newton (Malheur SWCD), Peter Kenagy (Kenagy Farms)

Other Meeting Participants

Annie Blietz, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Eileen Laramore, Tour of Knowledge
Kim Brown, Samara Group
Jalene Littlejohn, Samara Group
Lindsey Wise, Portland State University
Todd Adams, Oregon Department of Agriculture