

**Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, February 21st 2013, 5:00-7:10 pm, WSU Office, Port Hadlock

Board Members Present:

Patricia Robinson and Jill Silver.

Others Present:

Eve Dixon, John Haas, Bob Hoyle and George Yount.

▪ **Introductions:**

Introductions were made. Patricia and Jill are both Board Members, Eve is the Weed Board Coordinator, John Haas is an independent contractor who does weed control work, Bob Hoyle is a prospective Board Member for District 3 and George Yount is an interested citizen.

▪ **Approval of Minutes of November 15th 2012:**

Jill proposed to approve the minutes as presented. Pat seconded.

▪ **Discussion and Approval of 2013 Jefferson County Noxious Weed List:**

The Board discussed requiring control of reed canarygrass on roadsides. Jill has seen streams, particularly Elk Creek, badly infested with reed canarygrass and thinks it is probably getting there from roads. The Board would like to require control on roadsides, where clumps are less than 20 square feet, prioritizing those sites near to water. Jill mentioned she is meeting with WSDOT on April 4th, to discuss mowing reed canarygrass before seed set. Chimacum Creek is already badly infested with reed canarygrass, but many landowners are attempting to control it. It was planted there deliberately in the 1940s, and is still in some seed mixes planted by the National Resource Conservation Service.

The Board also discussed yellow archangel, and using covering as a control method. Jill recommended using mill felt, with is free. She has been working on yellow archangel on the Gise Street Trail for some time.

Scotch broom control in pits and quarries was discussed. Bob said there is a county pit on Old Anderson Lake Road which has a lot of Scotch broom. There are at least two large pit operations on Highway 104 which should be inspected. We should make weed control in pits a priority in 2013.

Jill proposed and Pat seconded, to approve the 2013 Jefferson County Noxious Weed List, as presented, with a slight change to the control requirements for reed canarygrass. The area for control is defined as “Roadsides only; new infestations smaller than 20 feet². Prioritize sites near wetlands, streams, and marine shorelines. Time mowing to eliminate seed set on road populations.”

▪ **Coordinator’s Report:**

No comments on the coordinator’s report.

▪ **Board Member Reports:**

Jill submitted a written report of her activities.

- **Board Membership Update:**

Bob Hoyle presented his application form for Board Membership. Eve will submit it to the Commissioners.

Eve has been in touch with Alex Huelsdonk about submitting his form.

- **Other Business**

Jill said she hopes to get WSDOT to expand their Adopt-A-Road program, where volunteers pick up litter, and have them work on weeds as well. She would like to also have the County adopt such a program.

The issue of weed disposal was discussed. A resident on Larson Lake Road pulled large amounts of wild chervil and had to pay \$76 at the landfill to dump it. He was not happy about it. Jill will contact Monte Reinders and/or Frank Gifford and ask in the situation can be changed. (Currently the County will not pick up weeds pulled by volunteers on county roads.)

A form from WSU, which people can use to request biocontrols, is now available through our website. Pat will let people on the Coyle Peninsula know they can get biocontrols for Scotch broom and will also encourage them to pull it.

Eve and Jill have worked on a Management Plan for county roads—it is still being considered by the Commissioners and/or Philip Morley (County Administrator). Control recommendations for different plants are included in the plan, but teasel is not (because it was recently added to the Weed List). Eve will add teasel, together with control recommendations. Jill thinks we need a series of public workshops to discuss weed control on county roads. There was discussion about mowing as a weed control measure—it can be very detrimental to wildlife—can rip out small nests and destroy habitat. We also discussed conducting an inventory of weeds on county roads, and the best choice of natives to plant on roadsides. Salal is a good choice, but hard to propagate and slow-growing.

We should plan to have a volunteer weed pull every month through the spring and summer, and advertize it widely. It has been reported that a notice in the Community Events section of The Leader gets good results. We need to make it fun to come out and pull weeds and we could get local businesses to donate food.

- **Schedule Next Meeting/Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10. The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 16th, at 5 pm. Eve will sent out a notice about the location—it is currently uncertain.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Eve Dixon, Noxious Weed Control Coordinator.