

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

Thursday, August 15th, DNR Conference Room, 411 Tillicum Lane, Forks

Board Members Present:

Bob Hoyle and Jill Silver.

Others Present:

Eve Dixon.

▪ **Introductions**

None necessary.

▪ **Approval of Minutes of May 16th.**

Jill proposed and Bob seconded to approve the minutes of May 16th.

▪ **Coordinator's Report**

Because Eve had been off for several weeks due to a broken ankle, she had not prepared a written report. She gave a brief verbal report—

- Pulling roadside wild chervil early in the year and coordinating spraying of wild chervil.
- Participating in training the Puget Sound Conservation Corps (PSCC) crews; there are three crews, one each in Clallam, Jefferson and Mason Counties, funded by DNR to do riparian weed control.
- Since being back in late July, coordinating the activities of the PSCC crew and getting landowner agreements
- Preparing a small display for the County Fair
- Roadside tansy ragwort pulling, with a volunteer
- Working with a licensed herbicide applicator, spraying many small knotweed sites in the county.

This led to a discussion about the on-going opposition to herbicide use in the county, and the impossibility of stopping knotweed invasions without it. Eve will draft an article for the PDN, giving the facts about our program and herbicide use, and will send it to Jill and Bob for comment before submitting it.

▪ **Board Member Reports**

Jill presented a written report of the hours she volunteered for the Weed Board in June and July.

- Preparing a presentation on Scotch broom and giving it to the NOP RC &D on June 27th.
- Starting a Scotch broom campaign with a meeting at Fort Worden on July 9th. The meeting went well—15 people attended, some of them travelling quite a distance to do so. Some issues discussed were
 - The pros and cons of requiring control of Scotch broom in Western Washington
 - Economic impact
 - Economic incentives to encourage landowners to remove Scotch broom
 - What works and what doesn't
 - Nitrogen fixing by Scotch broom
 - Political considerations

- Coordinating and working with the PSCC crew. After tracking time with 3 crew working on a 10' square patch of wild chervil, Jill estimated that it takes one minute to spray the same amount of weeds that take 120 minutes to dig.
- Training the Labor Leaders NW—a local group that is interested in learning about invasives and doing manual control. Jill recommended them to a few people.
- Much pulling of Scotch broom, tansy ragwort and teasel and getting landowners in Port Townsend to pull poison hemlock—most eventually did.

▪ **Board Membership Update**

We still only have three Board Members. Alex Huelsdonk is interested but still has not turned in the paperwork. Eve will contact him, and will also make a phone call to a prospective candidate for District 2 (Cape George and Discovery Bay).

▪ **Other Business**

Bob asked about the Weed-Free Hay program. Eve told him that it is now run by Washington State Department of Agriculture. She will send him the link to their website, and also put the information on the Weed Board's web page. There was some discussion about the web page. Eve will continue to work with Doug Noltemeier to create a map showing progress we have made in controlling noxious weeds. We would also like an interactive page, whereby people could report weed sightings.

▪ **Schedule Next Meeting/Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05. The next meeting will be on November 21st. Eve will try to reserve a room at the Tri-Area Community Center.

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