

Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Advisory Committee (SCNWCAC) Meeting Minutes

March 29, 2023; 9:00 am-11:45am
US Forest Service Office
173 Commerce Drive, Smelterville, ID

Executive Summary

- Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Advisory Committee (SCNWCAC)'s updated bylaws were approved by the Shoshone County Commissioners.
- Rodney Cochran (Idaho Department of Lands) was approved as a SCNWCAC member by the Shoshone County Commissioners
- The new Memorandum of Understanding between Shoshone County and partnering agencies was approved by the Shoshone County Commissioners
- The 2023 SCNWCAC calendar was revisited, and the fall meeting date set for October 5, 2023.
- SCNWCAC will work with ISDA and Kootenai County to see if a joint weed biocontrol workshop can be organized summer 2023.
- Shoshone County received three bids for roadside weed spraying in 2023, the Shoshone County Commissioners will act on the bids at their next meeting.
- SCNWCAC will hold two free spray days in 2023, June 1 and June 8 from 1-4pm.
- SCNWCAC will explore opportunities to apply for Idaho State Department of Agriculture noxious weed cost share grants and Resource Advisory Committee Grants.

SCNWCAC Board Members Participating:

Bill Pittman, Carol Randall

Shelby Heiderman- Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Department

Other Attendees:

Vince Cracchiolo,

Jeremy Kleinsmith (USFS),

Jenny Roman (ISDA),

Dyar Frank (USFS),

Meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Bill Pittman

Introductions:

Vince Cracchiolo and his wife Polly own property along the North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and are interested in learning more about noxious weed control and helping the SCNWCAC.

Jeremy Kleinsmith is the range and weed specialist for the Idaho Panhandle National Forest stationed in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Dyar Frank is a biological science technician (Plants) for the St Joe River Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forest stationed in Avery, ID.

The US Forest Service (USFS) is interested in working collaboratively with Shoshone County to address noxious weeds of mutual concern.

Jenny Roman is an Ag Program Specialist Noxious Weeds for the Idaho State Department of Agriculture in Post Falls, Idaho. She is interested in learning about SCNWCAC and helping.

Approve Minutes of Last Meeting:

- Draft meetings minutes from October 11, 2022, distributed prior to meeting.
- Calendar in minutes was not finalized and some of the dates are inaccurate.
- SCNWCAC will leave calendar as is in October minutes; but will update the calendar with accurate dates before distribution
- Motion to accept the meeting minutes with suggested edits by Carol Randall; Seconded by –Shelby Heiderman- passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

SCNWCAC Board Member Recruitment

- It is nice to have more attendance at SCNWCAC meetings- thank you Vince, Jenny, Jeremy, and Dyar.
- As the SCNWCAC would like to grow and become involved with more collaborative weed management activities, it is necessary to identify willing partners- individuals, groups, and state/ federal agencies- and recruit them to become members of SCNWCAC.
- Currently SCNWCAC has members from the Idaho Department of Lands, Stimson Lumber Company, US Forest Service, and Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control.
- All attending today's meeting are invited to join the SCNWCAC.
- Current SCNWCAC members are encouraged to invite representative of state and federal agencies as well as members of the public and civic groups interested in noxious weed control in Shoshone County to participate in SCNWCAC events, meetings, and join the committee.

SCNWCAC Bylaws

- Revised bylaws were accepted and signed by the Shoshone County Commissioners.

SCNWCAC Members

- Shoshone County Commissioners accepted full slate of candidates: Bill Pittman (President) Carol Randall (Secretary) Rodney Cochran.
- Would like to expand SCNWCAC further.
- To become a SCNWCAC member an individual needs to contact Shelby Heiderman, Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Department, and Shelby will forward names to the Shoshone County Commissioners for approval.
- Dyar Frank is ready to submit his name to the Shoshone County Commissioners
- Jeremy Kleinsmith and Jenny Roman will check with their employers to see if they may serve as well.
- Shelby Heiderman will follow up with those expressing interest in the committee.

US Forest Service- Shoshone County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- MOU between US Forest Service, Shoshone County, Stimson Lumber, Idaho Department of Lands, Bureau of Land Management to conduct cooperative weed activities in Shoshone County, Idaho.
- Enables spray days to happen on US Forest Service land- but does not enable US Forest Service personnel to participate in spray days off National Forest System land.
- US Forest Service will need to complete a non-funded participatory agreement with SCNWCAC and other partners to enable USFS employees to participate in spray days on other land ownerships.
- The requirement for a non-funded participatory agreement is new; historically a memorandum of understanding was sufficient for cooperative weed management area efforts.

- Via e-mail
- SCNWCAC will have event calendars available as a handout at spray days.
- Spray day needs

NEW BUSINESS

Weed Biocontrol Workshop

- Last workshop was in July 2022 and there were seven attendees.
- Two pesticide recertification credits were available, and the workshop included a basic introduction to biocontrol.
- Kootenai County had a similar session in 2022 that included sprayer calibration and offered 4 pesticide recertification credits.
- Discussion focused on the effort required to host a Shoshone County workshop. Would it be possible for SCNWCAC to work with ISDA and Kootenai County to schedule one 2024 biocontrol workshop and SCNWCAC would focus its efforts on publicizing the biocontrol workshop in Shoshone County.
- Jenny (ISDA) will contact Chris Adam, Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control, and see if Kootenai County has scheduled a biocontrol session in 2023.
- If so could Shoshone County and ISDA partner with Kootenai County and hold the workshop at ISDA office in Post Falls and extend invitations to Shoshone and Benewah Counties.
- SCNWCAC will work with Jenny and Shelby to improve efforts to publicize a biological control workshop within Shoshone and Benewah Counties in 2023.

Introduction of Noxious Weed Control Department to the Shoshone County Commissioners

- Two new Shoshone County Commissioners were elected in November, 2022.
- Shelby gave a presentation to the new commissioners on February 14, 2023, at an open meeting
- The Shoshone County Commissioners had questions for Shelby about the county weed program, made eye contact, and seemed to really be listening
- Shelby felt that the commissioners are supportive of the noxious weed program.

Contractor for Roadside Weed Applications

- Shelby got three bids (which is good, the market is tight!)
- Commissioners will take up the contract for road spray at their next meeting next week
- Shoshone County has just over 400 miles of roads; with the County's budget it is unclear how many miles will be sprayed in 2023.
- This will be the first Shoshone county road spray contract

Shoshone County 2023 Free Spray Days

- Will hold two Shoshone County Free Spray Days from 1-4 PM at the Osburn Shop on June 1, 2023, and Real Life Ministries- Silver Valley in Pinehurst on June 8, 2023.
- During the Shoshone County Free Weed Spray Days the county provides Shoshone County residents with free herbicide to treat weeds on private property.
 - The herbicide to be provided will again be Trimec 992 - EPA Reg No 2217-656.
 - The SCNWCAC will again provide a copy of the Trimec 992 label to all participants that pick-up herbicide.
 - An executive summary of Trimec 992 label information including a summary of precautionary statements, directions for use, user safety recommendations, reentry statement, how to clean equipment after use (triple rinse) will also be provided to all spray day attendees.

- Need to state in pre-event advertising that spray equipment brought to the spray day must be empty and clean before herbicide mixture will be dispensed into it- possibly include instructions on how to triple rinse spray equipment.
- Trimec will not be dispensed into unapproved containers (i.e., empty milk jugs / laundry detergent jugs, etc)
- What to do to prepare for and set up the spray days:
 - Ensure that both the Osburn Shop and Real Life Ministries locations are available on scheduled days
 - Ensure that the county has enough Trimec 992 available (Roughly 500 gallons between the two events)
 - Publicize the Free Spray Days well in advance (Middle of April- May, 2023) on Facebook, in the Shoshone County Press, and print flyers to hang up around the county (feed stores- community bulletin boards)
 - Coordinate with the people who loan SCNWCAC the event tent.
 - Find all the promotional materials we can to share with the public.
 - Ensure we have plenty of forms, handouts, pens, and clip boards.
 - Organize volunteers to mix the herbicide, transport the tent and loan out backpack sprayers, and other materials to the venues, staff the information tables, answer questions.
 - Be sure to bring sunscreen and an ice chest with bottled water to the events; those dispensing the herbicide should wear long sleeve shirts, long pants, closed toe shoes. Shelby will have protective eye ware and gloves on hand, but volunteers are welcome to bring their own.
 - In preparation:
 - Send out last year's handouts for the committee to review/ edit.
 - Finalize the 2023 SCNWCAC Event Calendar before the spray day and have calendars available for distribution at spray days.
 - Develop an SCNWCAC member recruitment flyer.

Jennifer Roman- ISDA Agriculture Program Specialist- Noxious Weeds

- 2023 will be a unique season for ISDA with shifts in personnel.
- North Idaho now has two positions instead of one.
- Mussel program headed by Paul Rhodes and Jenny Roman will have more room to work with noxious weeds.
- Curly leaf pondweed sprouting in Coeur d'Alene lake.
- Statewide- waiting for spring.
- Turkish thistle in Idaho- an Early Detection Rapid Response Weed.
 - Turkish thistle has moved from Snake to Salmon River in Idaho.
 - First populations were found in Oregon (Wallowa Whitman National Forest) in early 2000's- and the current distributions remains mostly within the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area.
 - ISDA will be doing a control project on Idaho Turkish thistle populations in May and continue mapping and monitoring- especially areas burned in wildfires in 2021.
 - As an Idaho listed EDRR species all known populations Turkish thistle in Idaho MUST be treated.
- Cogon grass- initially found in Ada County in 2022- now in a second county to the west. ISDA is hopeful that the current temporary EDRR listing for cogon grass will become permanent.
- Typical milfoil surveys- Hayden, Cocolalla, Pend Oreille, and Priest Lakes. Herbicide treatment of Eurasian watermilfoil doing well, and the populations are decreasing; however, seems to bounce back after 3 years so consistent monitoring and re-treatment is critical to successful control.
- Idaho surveying flowering rush with the hopes that when the biocontrol becomes available, they can use it. The only herbicide option for flowering rush is Diquat.

OTHER BUSINESS

Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

- What is a RAC? Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committees operate under a national charter, last filed October 15, 2021. The charter is valid for two years, through October 15, 2023.
- The role of Resource Advisory Committees includes:
 - review projects proposed under Title II by participating counties and other persons.
 - propose projects and funding through the Designated Federal Official (DFO).
 - provide early and continuous coordination with the DFO in recommending title II projects.
 - provide frequent opportunities for citizens, organizations, tribes, land management agencies, and other interested parties to participate openly and meaningfully, beginning at the early stages of developing Title II projects.
 - monitor implementation of approved Title II projects and advise the DFO on the progress of the monitoring.
 - make recommendations to the DFO for any appropriate changes or adjustments to the projects being monitored by the resource advisory committee.
- The IPNF is looking for a diverse core of RAC committee members.
- SCNWCAC needs to be thinking about Shoshone County RAC proposals for weed projects.
- Can use RAC funds for everything but labor and infrastructure. RAC funds may be used for YCC crews (contract), seed, herbicide, backpack sprayers, weed wrenches- more supplies.
- The SCNWCAC may want to identify some specific weed problems that could be addressed with a RAC projects.
- USFS Burned Area Recovery(BAR) funds for Character Fire- IPNF: in conjunction with Geospatial Training and Support Committee (GTAC) the IPNF will be conducting drone surveys between Prichard and Beaver Creek to find blueweed; in the future IPNF may ask for RAC funds for drone surveys to survey for other weed species.
- Clearwater CWMA is using drones to map knotweed.

Weed Project Proposal Development

- SCNWCAC needs to develop a strategic plan so it can apply for ISDA noxious weed cost share funding.
- A strategic plan may not be necessary for a RAC proposal, but SCNWCAC will need to determine how grant funds would be managed- what entity would manage the grant funds- Shoshone County?
- Carol will send the last IECWMA strategic plan to Bill for his review and consideration.

Next Meeting – October 5, Thursday, 9-11 am Silver Valley Office- (Conference room booked 8am-1pm)

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 am by Shelby Heiderman; Seconded by Carol Randall - passed.

Respectfully Submitted by Carol Randall.

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Recap of Motions:

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes
2. Approval to adjourn meeting.

DRAFT

2023 Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Calendar of Events

March 29- Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Advisory Board Spring Meeting- USFS Smelterville Office, 173 Commerce Drive, Smelterville, ID

May 18th- Impact assessment day knotweed control efforts in 2022

June 1- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Osburn Shop, 58834 Silver Valley Road, Osburn, ID

June 8- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4PM Real Life Ministries- Sliver Valley, Pinehurst, ID

Biocontrol/ Calibration workshop? See if happening in Kootenai County-

Late June/ July (TBD)- Knotweed spray day- Moon Gulch

July – August (TBD)- Knotweed Community Spray Day, Kellogg, ID-

September (TBD)- Blueweed Community Spray Day Prichard/ Murray Blueweed

October 5 (Thursday) 9-11am- Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Advisory Committee Fall Meeting- USFS Smelterville Office, 173 Commerce Drive, Smelterville, ID

Blueweed in Flower



Knotweed in Flower

