

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

Thursday, March 28, 2024; 9:00 am-11:00 am
US Forest Service Office
173 Commerce Drive, Smeltonville, ID

Executive Summary

- Volunteer agreement process.
- IPNF Resource Advisory Committee- recruiting board members.
- Moon Gulch and Kellogg Golf Course knotweed projects are having positive impact; work will need to continue into 2024.
- Knotweed biocontrol efforts continue in county.
- Bids for 2024 Shoshone County weed spraying contract going to County Commissioners week of April 1, 2024.
- 2024 Basket for Idaho Noxious Weed Conference was a big hit. INWC basket auction brought in over \$2000 for scholarships at the University of Idaho. Thanks to Polly Cracchiolo for leading the basket formation process.
- Finalized the 2024 SCNWCAC Calendar of Events.
- Discussed logistics for the 4 planned Community Free Spray Days in 2024.
- SCNWCAC is recruiting additional members.

Introductions

In Attendance: Tracy Casaday, the County Commissioner liaison for the weed department, Carol Young, Carol Randall, Bill Pittman, Shelby Heiderman, Jenny Roman, Shelby Heiderman, Dyar Frank.

Call to Order: 8:57 am

Review Meeting Minutes for 10-5-2023 Meeting

Discussed proposed 2024 calendar- will revise and append to these meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve- Shelby Heiderman; second- Dyar Frank; passed.

Old Business

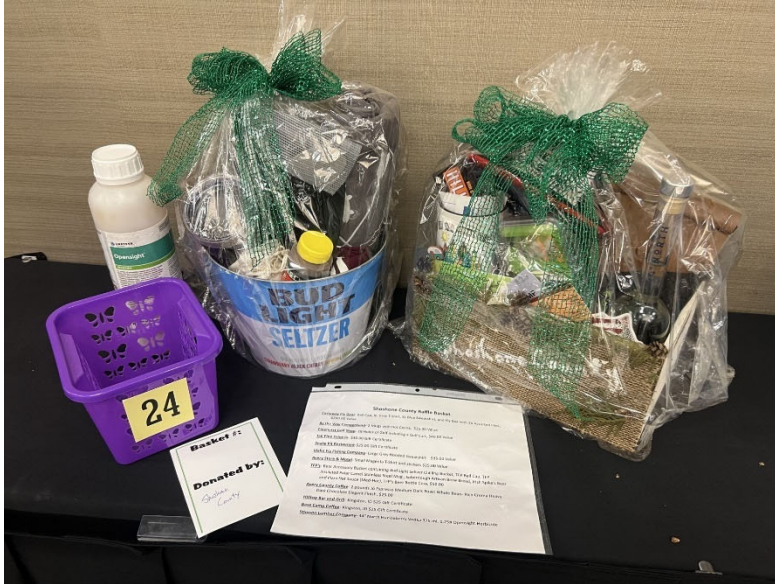
- Non-Participant Agreement-
 - Dyar has done a fantastic job developing the agreements- both Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and non-funded participatory agreements are good for 6-years.
 - Conversations are continuing to clarify agreement processes.
 - Questions concerning how to cover liability for volunteers who participate in a cooperative spray day.
 - Does Shoshone County have a volunteer agreement? USFS has a volunteer agreement- but need to have a volunteer complete the paperwork and have it approved by a line officer before volunteer work can begin.
 - How much lead time would a District Ranger need to sign off on a volunteer agreement? Would need to coordinate with the District Ranger.

- Such agreements would cover true volunteers- folks not being paid for the activity (employees would be covered by employers' insurance- volunteers would need to complete a volunteer agreement either for the County or for the USFS).
- Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)
 - No updates.
 - [Local RAC is still recruiting volunteer board members](https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/ipnf/workingtogether/advisorycommittees) (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/ipnf/workingtogether/advisorycommittees>)
 - To our knowledge no RAC grant opportunities released for 2024.
 - Stay tuned.
 - Geographic area of RAC is associated with the Idaho Panhandle National Forest boundary.
 - Board Committee Volunteers serve for 5-years.
 - Will keep on the radar for possible funding opportunity moving forward.
- Moon Gulch and Golf Course assessments.
 - Moon Gulch- this May USFS will be returning to assess how 2023 treatments in preparation for bringing crews in later in June. Youth Conservation Corps (specifically Idaho YCC) crews will be at Moon Gulch 6/20/2024-
 - Forest soil scientist is also working on a biochar and biocontrol project at Moon Gulch
 - Soil scientist is working with University of Idaho on the project.
 - Golf Course assessment- had success with injections of glyphosate and spraying with [Ecomazapyr](#)- but not 100% kill.
 - Knotweed is far more prevalent than we hoped- so we don't think treatments are the most important response- we should emphasize mapping and identifying source populations.
 - Asking the golf course to work on their knotweed populations could help prevent additional spread- but it is unlikely to lead to eradication.
 - Stimson has a drone- Bill will work with Shelby to see if drone mapping can happen by the golf course to delimit the knotweed population.
- Knotweed biocontrol release
 - Still have not determined establishment.
 - Moon Gulch and Latour Creek are the 2 release sites in Idaho.
 - Biocontrol agents are tiny- and knotweed populations are large- so it is not unusual for it to take years before released biocontrol agents are found at a release site.

New Business

- Spray Season 2024
 - The bid was for 633 lane miles, 24 acres of spot spraying, and 47 acres of bare ground.
 - Panhandle Land Management (Micah Glassman), Panhandle Spray Service, and Custom Spray Solutions were approached for a bid.
 - Bryce Lund- Custom Spray Solutions-declined to bid.
 - Left with \$22,000 (PLM) and \$35,000 (PSS) bids- using the contractor's equipment and county herbicide.
 - The bids are with the County Commissioners- and it is on the agenda for the Commissioners' meeting next week.
- Educational Basket
 - Carol will work with Dyar to get thank you notes out.
 - 2024 Basket for Idaho Noxious Weed Conference (INWC) was a big hit.

- INWC basket auction brought in ~ \$2000 for scholarships at the University of Idaho.
- Thanks to Polly Cracchiolo for leading the basket formation process.
- The SCNWCAC will pull together another basket for 2025 Idaho Noxious Weed Control Conference.
- Will be an agenda item for next SCNWCAC meeting.



- Committee Members
 - SNWCAC would like to continue to grow.
 - We would like to include members from the Tribes and from Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.
 - As the membership increases, would like to get back to a grant seeking organization (through Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Resource Advisory Committees, Others)
- Events Calander for 2024
 - Shelby will check with the county shops and Real Life church to make sure assigned dates for spray days work
 - June 11- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Osburn Shoshone County District 3 Shop, 58834 Silver Valley Road, Osburn, ID.
 - June 13- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Avery/ Calder, ID- Marble Creek Shoshone County District 4 Shop, 100 Sibert River Road, Avery, ID.
 - June -25 Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Real Life Ministries- Silver Valley, Pinehurst, ID.
 - June 27- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Prichard/ Murray, ID- Shoshone County District 1 Shop, Murray, ID.
 - Will be using **Foundation** herbicide.
 - Carol needs to pull together safety materials for the spray days and share with Jenny by end of April.
 - Shelby to do publicity- press release- a public notice and poster that she will share with SNWCAC board members to post in the community and Carol Young.

- BEFORE COMMUNITY SPRAY DAYS- pot up a knotweed plant and a blueweed plant in 5-gallon buckets and ask participants at spray days if they have these plants on their property and want help spraying- let the county noxious weed department know.
- Make sure we have knotweed and blueweed fact sheets and county weed books at every spray day.
- After spray days Shelby will consolidate requests for help with knotweed and blueweed and send information to SNCWA board members to prepare for August knotweed and September blueweed spray days.
- June 20- knotweed spray day- Moon Gulch- FS YCC June 17-20th on CDA district; June 20th would be the community spray day- SNWCAC members participating (not the public).
- August 13- Knotweed Community Spray Day, Kellogg, ID- 5-8 YCC crew in Upper Joe- to spray populations identified by participants in the community free spray days- SCNWCAC members to spray. If no sites identified will spray at the golf course.
- September 10- Blueweed Community Spray Day Prichard/ Murray Blueweed to spray populations identified by participants in the community free spray days- SCNWCAC members to spray. If no community identified sites will spray areas in Beaver Creek.
- October (TBD) Integrated Weed Management Workshop- in coordination with Kootenai County as in 2023.
- November 7- (Thursday) 9- 11:30am- Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Advisory Committee Fall Meeting- USFS Smelterville Office, 173 Commerce Drive, Smelterville, ID.
- Decision to forgo booths at public events until we get a few more members.
- Printable Calendar at end of minutes.
- Motion to approve- Dyer motioned- Shelby seconded- motion carried.

Other Business

- New Members Welcome
- Jenny Roman is looking for houndstongue biocontrol monitoring sites- paired (one will receive a biocontrol release when releases are available, the other will be a control) about a quarter of a mile apart that will not be treated for the next ten or so years.
- Note- future agendas should have a person identified for each agenda item so group knows who will lead that discussion.
- Benewah CO Fair August 15-18; Shelby will explore making weed outreach and education materials available to other groups displaying at the fair.

Next Meeting- November 7, 2024; Smelterville USFS Office

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 am by Shelby Heiderman; Seconded by Carol Randall - passed.

SCNWCAC Advisory Board Members

Bill Pittman, Chairman; Carol Randall, Secretary; Members: Rodney Cochrane, Jeremy Kleinsmith, Jenny Roman, Dyar Frank

Respectfully Submitted by Carol Randall.

Approved:

Date:

Recap of Motions:

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes
2. Approval of 2024 SCNWCAC Calendar.
3. Approval to adjourn meeting.

DRAFT

2024 Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Calendar of Events

January 9-10- Idaho Noxious Weed Conference, Boise, ID

March 28- Shoshone County Noxious Weed Control Advisory Board Spring Meeting- USFS Smelterville Office, 173 Commerce Drive, Smelterville, ID

May 23- Impact assessment day knotweed control efforts in 2023

June 11- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Osburn Shoshone County District 3 Shop, 58834 Silver Valley Road, Osburn, ID

June 13- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Avery/ Calder, ID- Marble Creek Shoshone County District 4 Shop, 100 Sibert River Road, Avery, ID

June 25- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Real Life Ministries- Silver Valley, 708 North Division Street, Pinehurst, ID

June 27- Community Free Spray Day, 1-4:00 PM Prichard/ Murray, ID- Shoshone County District 1 Shop, 6338 Prichard Creed Rd Murray, ID. 83874

June 20- Knotweed spray day- Moon Gulch- FS YCC June 17-20th on CDA district; June 20th would be the community spray day.

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October 7- Integrated Weed Management Workshop- coordinating with Kootenai County as in 2023

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“April showers bring May monsoons and 21 days of rain in June.”

