



CNIPM Monthly Teleconference Notes

Teleconference Leader: Genelle Winter
Call-in number: 1-800-893-8850
Passcode: 5711553

*August 5,
2015*

Attendees (check all that apply)

Board Members

- Heather Stewart (DNR – Plant Materials Center, Palmer)
- Matt Steffy (Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District, Homer)
- Brian Maupin (Alaska Association of Conservation Districts, Juneau)
- Genelle Winter (Metlakatla Indian Community)
- Katrina LeMieux (DOTPF – Maintenance & Operations, Fairbanks)
- Lindsey Flagstad, Vice Chair (UAA- Alaska Natural Heritage Program, Anchorage)
- Steven Seefeldt (UAF- Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks)

Ex-Officio

- Aliza Segal (BLM – Anchorage Field Office, Anchorage)
- Beth Schultz (USFS – Ecologist, Anchorage)
- Chris Overbaugh (NPS – Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage)
- vacant

Regular Attendees

- Mary Stensvold (USFS – Botanist, Sitka)
- Patrick Samson (Kuskokwim River Watershed Council, Bethel)
- Louisa Branchflower (Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District, Palmer)
- Brianne Blackburn, Chair (DNR – Plant Materials Center, Palmer)
- Aditi Shenoy (Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District, Fairbanks)
- Blythe Brown (Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District, Kodiak)
- Brett Nelson (DOTPF – Northern Region, Fairbanks)
- Bruce Bennett (Yukon, Whitehorse)
- Danielle Verna (Copper River Watershed Project, Cordova)
- Darcy Etcheverry (UAF – Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks)
- David Lendrum (UAS – Landscape, Juneau)
- Eric Geisler (BLM – Alaska State Office, Anchorage)
- Gino Graziano (UAF – Cooperative Extension Service, Anchorage)
- John Hudson (FWS – Juneau Field Office, Juneau)
- Maggie Hess (DOTPF – Maintenance & Operations, Fairbanks)
- Miranda Terwilliger (NPS, Wrangell-St. Elias, Glennallen)
- Phil Kasper (UAF – Cooperative Extension Service, Delta)
- Rob DeVelice (USFS – Chugach National Forest, Anchorage)
- Ruth Gronquist (BLM – Central Yukon Field Office, Fairbanks)
- Trish Wurtz (USFS – Forest Health Protection, Fairbanks)

Additional Attendees:

Benjamin Story- DOT southeast region

Round Robin (9-10 a.m., in any order)

Southeast

Benjamin Story-- Point of contact for DOT in SE working with Brian Maupin, doing Orange Hawkweed and working to set up a site visit in Kodiak with Blythe Brown. Based out of Juneau.

Mary – NEPA effort going on for treatment of invasive in the northern Tongass had Shauna Batista (?) come up from Portland, not much opposition, Wrangell district charging ahead to use mile stone in administrative site, admin NEPA to district, heard this last week but not really sure what else is going.

Wondering about the phone call? Tried to play that, but it didn't work for her

Trish- tell you more about it, 3 speakers Pam Miller, PHD with NR defense council, Jonathon Kries-Tomkins, sponsored a bill about public comments opportunities, not a lot of new information from me on there, ACAT feels people should be using manual not chemical, woman from NR defense did a brief description of suffix and how it can mean poison, all she said was toxicology very basic information that all 'cide suffix is to kill things.

Steve- the whole talk was a waste of time, mongering

Matt- what was a concern they said there was no longer a permit or public comments period, blanketed all state agencies with blatant misinformation. Did just find Ben Foss name from Iliamana (?) area.

Steve- she said no one needed a permit to spray water ways, yes lots of mis-information

Mary,- add – quite a landscaping project on the harbor and brad creek house discovered we have bird vetch not very much, going toward Sheldon Jackson

Matt- weed crew in Seward and got accosted by an angry landscaper who had been doing cuttings and mowing around bird vetch and giving it to friends, very diplomatic dialogue with his supervisors. Crew is allowed to go and remove that population

Trish says do not delay,

John Hudson- fish and wildlife in Juneau partnering with AACD for 3 or 4th year of treatment of RCG, bohemian knotweed throughout Juneau, new projects Meden hall state game refuge, global bird area so going to treat RCG, perennial sow thistle pulling on Douglas island, unsuccessful on another shoreline, can't do it with hand pulling, milestone treatment with new population of perennials sow thistle, upland area

Working in partnership with Southeast Soil and Water Conservation District (Brian Maupin, Kim Valverde), the Juneau Fish and Wildlife Field Office is conducting:

- 3rd year herbicide treatment of canarygrass in Montana Creek and East Fork Duck Creek watersheds this month
- 3rd year herbicide treatment of Bohemian knotweed at numerous sites in Juneau, including DOT ROW, this month.
- Initiation of herbicide control of canarygrass and perennial sowthistle in and around the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge.
- Handpulling of ornamental jewelweed at two locations in Juneau

Genelle Winter- we have had a very busy control month, we finally got some rain and the boosted all those plants that were hanging out waiting for a little moisture. We just had Brian Maupin here from AACD and he got to tour our projects, and even participate, we helped kids cut RCG seed heads and asked the 75 year old homeowner of our 'parent' patch of tansy ragwort if we could pull his plants. He gladly let us and we pulled over 1000 plants and had around 40 rosettes for next year or maybe in the fall, we will follow that up.

We pulled bull thistle, some creeping thistle, and some sow while Brian was here, so it was a fun day and a half.

You know you are true weed geek when you can spot a bull thistle at 50 mph on the highway, but its ok because, we pulled it.

Well that is all we have done in the last week anyway, its been busy with outreach and manual control activities.

Southcentral/ Southwest

Matt Steffy;

Homer-

The ROW crew has been continuing mapping and control work across the peninsula. They have been aggressively updating the AKEPIC records and adding new information. Work was done this month in Soldotna, Nikiski, and Seward. They were also able to wrap up a project under the RAC program in Portage and Whittier. They will shift focus onto the IPP grant for white sweetclover control in Seward, and be conducting a follow-up trip to Harriman Fjord to conclude a RAC grant project over there. The permitting process with DOT PF & ROW has been a bit more cumbersome than anticipated. It's been a learning curve for everyone involved. There seems to be some variation between how the three regions of the state are regulating the process. It will be interesting to have some post season conversations with eyes on how to be more efficient next year. Plans are underway to host a community workshop in Nanwalek in the next few weeks, as well as a follow up visit to Port Graham.

Good self-supervised crew, lots of cooperation, good camping provision etc. had a John Morton motivated policy, but still doing through going pains of how to really apply ibmp. Each region handling the ibmp differently biggest thing is planning stage and info avail was not sufficient, AKEPIC data had false positives or inconclusive, spending more time mapping highway pullouts etc. going to get really detailed notes to AKEPIC, had a lot of calls to answer on how to handle hawkweed, working on that

Heather Stewart and Krissy Dunker (ADF&G) on Lake Hood elodea treatment, had to have a second boat tow us as we had engine problems. That was Friday, the 24, same day that other CWMA in Homer did follow up lake for Daniels Lake down here. Seapro (?) John would like to another application with pellets before the ice goes in. not that seeing lots of elodea but to maintain protection contemplating one more application. Results came in lower than aiming for.

Trish- lake hood floridone ~~there~~ [WUI]? Heather answered via cniptm notes edits, that yes we will be following up with fluridone

Matt- going to come up with long term plan for lake hood, john Morton, may be on wrong route with floridone vs diquat , much more expensive, lake hood is a commercial enterprise not a wildlife habitat, so may end up just using diquat every few years to reduce costs, there SS Minnow can only do lanes in the lake not where they actually dock up. Goal to eradicate in Lake Hood as a vector to all states, but remember it is highest single probability for reintroduction. Compost facility inspection- was kind of neat, due to DOT requiring weed free- American compost facility, how can you say weed free, maybe say weed management program? Rotation of mounds and other practices. No invasives in the compost but plenty on grounds around it. He wouldn't consider it weed free, can do monitoring as they may use. Neat to see it moving it forward.

Danielle-

Copper Basin:

On July 11th we held the 3rd annual Copper Basin Weed Smackdown in Glennallen: 28 people pulled over 1300 lbs of white sweetclover. We handed out filled water bottles printed with our CWMA logo to volunteers. I was there for 5 days to help with other mowing and pulling in ROWs on the Glenn, Richardson, and Edgerton Highways. CRWP has 3 employees working on invasive weeds in the basin this summer.

Myself and Ruth McHenry, a CWMA partner with Copper Country Alliance, gave invasive weed training to the staff of the Copper Valley Electric Association: white sweetclover 101, BMPs, etc.

Cordova:

Very busy with field work. We sprayed RCG at 18 mile on the Copper River Highway - this is the 3rd year that we've sprayed and there were roughly only 2 dozen plants that returned this year. We're aiming to prevent spread further out onto the delta. We've also sprayed OH in town. We've been doing a lot of RCG control along major roads and in 2 heavily infested neighborhoods - mostly seed head removal and digging for now, with plans to spray in DOT ROW later this month. We've received some help from the FS and occasional volunteers, but our staff is limited so we prioritize our treatment sites. Our knotweed revegetation project is coming together and the staff from the Plant Materials Center will be in town next week.

Elodea: the Forest Service has been doing surveys in Eyak Lake, McKinley Lake, and others. Andrew Skibo from SePRO will be in town for a Cordova/Copper River Delta site visit on Friday, August 7th. The CRWP will be hosting a second public meeting about Elodea on September 9th.

Trish- when Andrew helping with application.. is someone paying him or funding with seapro?(is that the right name for that organization?)

Matt- believe seems to be when a project is getting going then seapro will send Andrew or Scott for initial applications. For anchorage area, DNR is handling that.

Depends on situation

Danielle- planning another4 local elodea meeting on sept 9,

Eric Geisler- BLM is drafting standard stipulations for use on all permitted activity, we can't tell people what to do but can suggest bmp's. We will require permittees to have 3 years of weed free before we release a permittee from their responsibility

Anchorage/Palmer

Gino Graziano

I have been working to complete the phone application which was submitted to the Apple store by UGA last Friday. The App should be available soon.

I did work with Tyonek Tribal Conservation District providing training, and assisting with inventory.

We have a pathogen of Prunus species that was submitted to our office recently. I have worked with pathologists from Division of Ag, and State and Private Forestry to develop a form for people to submit observations of this pathogen or its absence on various Prunus species. Once I hear back from them we will send a note to the listserv and other places to gain your observations. We do not yet believe this will be a biocontrol option for Prunus padus. I was told that pathogens are difficult to use as biocontrol.

Invasive species workshop information is online, and registration should be available soo

Heather Stewart

Doing CT manual management, going well, going to treat with herbicide at the end of the month. Will be utilizing the DOT IVMP, so fall is perfect time to treat with herbicide.

Doing elodea dicot treatment at Lake Hood, observationally, it took 3-5 days to see physical results of biomass removal, witnessing elodea die. The float plane pilots have been very supportive.

Yesterday and today doing fluridone in 3 Anchorage lakes (DeLong, Little Campbell, and Sand) getting a lot of good feedback and a really great team. She listed Tim Stallard, Mike Buntjer with Fish and Wildlife Service, Krissy Dunker with Fish and Game, and Andrew Skibo with SePRO. Also Karin Hendrickson from the DEC was observing and pleased to see them following all the steps in recommended treatment.

Libby Bella

Not on the phone but sent an update:

I'll be giving a presentation for the Anchorage Waterways Council on Oct 14 on a panel with Gino Graziano, Pam Miller, and Patrick Tomco on invasives and chemical impacts on the environment, fish, wildlife, and humans.

I'm doing a detailed analysis of non-native plant species for the entire Donlin Gold project area (Tyonek to Bethel) using AKEPIC data, as well as assessing risk from marine invasive species. The draft EIS will be available sometime this fall if anyone is interested in catching up on some exciting invasive-related NEPA reading.

Thanks and hello to everyone that phones in.

Lindsey Flagstad

Not on the phone but sent an update:

I am in the office for just a few hours today and unfortunately will miss tomorrow's teleconference...

I just got back from another trip to the mighty Arctic Coastal Plain during which I saw not a single non-native species! Otherwise, I had a great time at the Anchorage Smackdown, which Tim did a fantastic job organizing (again).

Hope all is well with you,

Beth Schultz

Not on the phone but sent an update:

My brief report - My neighborhood bird vetch control worked out well – we pulled about 8 bags the 1st session, and about 3 more when we revisited 2 weeks later. Our efforts helped reveal a wonderful crop of volunteer raspberries – including a patch of goldens! We also clipped reed canary grass seed heads. (I hired local kids to help.)

Fairbanks/Interior

Trish Wurtz- on the phone call, dude who wanted to know about the plant in Iliamana (?) lake, a lot more plants being reported, more attention to those reports

Elodea at the lake 2 Saturdays ago, suction barge in the lake, demo bunch of booths set up, julie set up a fish tank in 3 parts to show native fish habitats and then showing impacts with elodea, very popular,

Maggie Hess- for Katrina-

Katrina- not on the phone but sent an update and had Maggie as her representative on the call: DOT&PF is continuing to work with multiple cooperators in their various stages of IVMP-related work. M&O Northern Region is starting to plan site visits in anticipation of 2016 IVMP applications.

Maggie Hess has accepted a job at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and her last day with M&O will be August 21, 2015. Working with the CNIPM and on the IVMP webpages has been a highlight of her time with DOT&PF. Thanks to you all for all you do!

Steven Seefeldt- not much to report, finishing touches on bird vetch control video going up on you tube, like it, have everything you would expect on such a video, it looks in sept, he will be switching to horticulture position at UAF, going to allow him to conduct research again,, including herbicide resistance etc.

Bruce Bennet- Yukon- north coast, really nice to see no introduced species found. Inuivik only one patch of white Sweetclover found in 2006, gradually spreading but only introduced plant even around the airport, good news from the north.,

In south here pulling on Dempster down to mile 12 or 8, as far as know not further than that Almost made it around Mary Lake subdivision, 5 km to do the whole loop probably 3 of those km are weed free, mostly hand pulling, not much white sweet clover on south highway, lots of other invasive things, not really anyone doing any thing other than noting distribution. Sow thistle spreading like crazy,

Steve looking out at Adak for invasive,

Aditi Shenoy

not on the phone but sent an update:

- The Fairbanks Elodea Steering Committee hosted a public event at Chena Lake Recreation Area on July 25th. There was information about *Elodea*, a native/non-native plant ID booth, activities for kids, and door prizes.
- *Elodea* surveys:
 - ➔ Chena River: The lower portion of the Chena River from the mouth of the Chena to the mouth of Noyes Slough has been surveyed (by divers and visually from the shore) several times. Floating fragments have been sighted in the main channel of the river, but only one live rooted patch of Elodea has been found so far, next to the Tanana Chief. This patch has been cleaned up using the suction dredge.
 - ➔ Tanana River: A 30 mile section of the Tanana River between the mouth of the Chena River and Nenana was surveyed for Elodea. No elodea was found at any of the stream and slough mouths that were surveyed.
- Yukon Flats white sweet clover IPP project: surveying, mapping of infestations, and manual control of white sweet clover in Fort Yukon, Stevens Village, Beaver, and Birch Creek is being completed. Beaver was the only village where no white sweet clover was found.

Board Meeting (10-11 a.m.)

Board Members in Attendance

- Katrina LeMieux (DOTPF – Maintenance & Operations, Fairbanks)
- Lindsey Flagstad, Vice Chair (UAA- Alaska Natural Heritage Program, Anchorage)
- Matt Steffy (Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District, Homer)
- Heather Stewart (DNR – Plant Materials Center, Palmer)
- Steven Seefeldt (UAF- Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks)
- Tim Stallard (Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage)
- Brian Maupin (Alaska Association of Conservation Districts, Juneau)
- Genelle Winter (Metlakatla Indian Community)

Discussion Points

Maggie- is in for Katrina

John Hudson – is in for Brian

Next major thing is the agenda

Maggie- Wondering if there is a coordinated effort in how the group goes about sending the “Save the Date” cards, or if each member just sends them on to whoever they think would be interested.

Gino- just send them out with your agencies and who you think you would want to invite.

Maggie- We may want to consider being more organized in disseminating the “Save the Date” cards since it is in Juneau and there is good opportunity to reach out to not only local SE residents, but Legislators, the Governor’s Office, etc.

John- have Jonathon give a presentation on his bill he is supporting including general thought and about invasive plant management,

Heather going to reach out to Jen Krenz for being a presenter Gino and her getting that all set up

Steve-Tim miller- WA state concerns about weeds in Alaska, garlic mustard and yellow archangel, just needs travel assistance, doing research with knotweed and RCG, Heather has a sketch agenda, Gino doesn’t have one. Keep in mind the cost for the venue for John Hudsons’ talk, the public library downtown is avail for free

Gino need place to attract people to it, maybe talk to manager at the Hall, and do it Tuesday night instead of Monday,

Follow up with heather- agenda- include Kries-Tomkins, Tim Miller, Jen Krenz, university of Georgie, Chuck Bergeron, invited speakers for two talks,
Send out a request for presentations? Who does that? Gino- heather says she thinks it might be someone else to do that. He got some ideas from people,

Genelle- put me down for something,

Gino- had a poster of using ballistics about using that to manage weeds,

Steve- reviewed a manuscript for that using a helicopter to treat species from the air, with species with large leaves, marksman was good at it,

Matt- using paint ball guns in Kauai on the cliffs

Beefing up the agenda, in the next email.

Maggie- We have finished up the Education and Outreach chapter and have sent it to Heather. Not sure of status beyond that.

Steve- we got the research one in as well

Matt- question about that –Louisa working on coordination section, passed that on to me, wondering how to get access to that, was no draft on the google drive, under the sections not a coordination sections, be glad to take input,

Maggie- Matt- feel free to call her if you need help extracting the text from the PDF document; she recalls that that may be a place to start from. Noted that there are existing benchmarks for success in the existing Strategic Plan and to make it a streamlined document, it will require a lot of peer review and formatting. She isn't sure if the group wants to carry through the same types of performance measure structure that exists in the current one.

Genelle- Goal to have it done by the conference correct?

In person meeting before the conference, where we can meet on the progress, for a final draft.