



CNIPM Monthly Teleconference Notes

Teleconference Leader: Chris O.
Call-in number: 1-800-893-8850
Passcode: 5711553

June 3, 2015

9-10 a.m. CNIPM Meeting

Board Member Attendees

- Heather Stewart, Chair (DNR – Plant Materials Center, Palmer)
- Matt Steffy, Vice-Chair (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 (UAA- Alaska Natural Heritage Program, Anchorage)
- Steven Seefeldt (UAF- Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks)

Ex-Officio Attendees

- Aliza Segal (BLM – Anchorage Field Office, Anchorage)
- Beth Schultz (USFS – Ecologist, Anchorage)
- Chris Overbaugh (NPS – Alaska Regional Office, Anchorage)
- Elizabeth Bella (FWS – Ecologist, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Soldotna)

Regular Attendees

- Aditi Shenoy (Fairbanks Soil and Water Conservation District, Fairbanks)
- Blythe Brown (Kodiak Soil and Water Conservation District, Kodiak)
- Brett Nelson (DOTPF – Northern Region, Fairbanks)
- Brianne Blackburn, (DNR – Plant Materials Center, Palmer)
- 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)
- Janice Chumley (UAF – Cooperative Extension Service, Kenai Peninsula)
- John Hudson (FWS – Juneau Field Office, Juneau)
- Kim Allen (DNR – Plant Materials Center, Palmer)
- Louisa Branchflower (Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District, Palmer)
- Maggie Hess (DOTPF – Maintenance & Operations, Fairbanks)
- Mary Stensvold (USFS – Botanist, Sitka)
- Miranda Terwilliger (NPS, Wrangell-St. Elias, Glennallen)
- Patrick Samson (Kuskokwim River Watershed Council, Bethel)
- Phil Kaspari (UAF – Cooperative Extension Service, Delta)
- Rob DeVelice (USFS – Chugach National Forest, Anchorage)
- Ruth Gronquist (BLM – Central Yukon Field Office, Fairbanks)
- Tim Stallard (Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage)
- Trish Wurtz (USFS – Forest Health Protection, Fairbanks)

Additional Attendees

- Sue Salmons (Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage)
- Nellie Troit (UAF – Cooperative Extension Service, Delta)
- Benjamin Storey (DOT - Juneau)

Notes from Round Robin

Southeast

Brian Maupin

- Garlic mustard is blooming with less seedlings this year than last year; currently hand-pulling and will spray in future
- Working on DOT roadside application process; having some issues with DEC permits
- Kim is in Mendenhall surveying wetland areas for reed canary grass
- Heading to Sitka to do some ground-truthing of AKEPIC data and working on a CWMA for that area
- Found some bird cherry in a creek growing wild; none seen in the surrounding neighborhood; Doesn't have a grasp on the bird cherry infestations in SE

Ben Storey

- He is the new point of contact with the DOT in Juneau

Southcentral/ Southwest

Blythe Brown

- Working with DOT to get permit to apply herbicide to roadsides and airport areas
- Working through the DEC permit process
- 2 crew members are on-board...1 returning; they've been out killing weeds on a refuge project
- Hoping for funding to kick in

Danielle Verna

- DOT herbicide application sites are being surveyed (Copper River Hwy); Draft public notice out; handling permits
- San Juan Bay dandelion eradication project at FS ranger cabin
- Glennallen Weed Smackdown planning call was held last week; save the date-- July 11th and meet at the recycling center at the Hub in Glennallen
- Working on elodea with the FS on Elak lake; conducting vegetation surveys on the lake to ID all vegetation; will be conducting trail herbicide treatments on a different lake with the goal to use herbicides on Elak lake in future

Libby Bella

- Just started her new job
- Will be doing wetland surveys and ve. Work
- So far no Elodea has been found in Daniel or Beck lakes post-treatment

Anchorage

Aliza Segal

- Working on EA to use herbicides at Campbell Tract
- Starting to look for contractors in the Anchorage area to do control work
- August herbicide application on bird cherry, white sweetclover and orange hawkweed, but this may be too late in the season to be effective

Gino Graziano

- Has been busy doing a lot of work with schools and teachers
- Working on the phone app.; getting suggestions; taking care of spelling errors and fixing the app.; FWS wants us to do another review session in future
- Taking a lot of calls regarding choke cherry removal in his neighborhood
- Working on Best Management Practices online training
- Took a phone cal from a concerned person regarding spotted hawkweed for sale at a store...not the most invasive hawkweed, but still not wanted in Alaska; need to follow-up on hawkweed spp. Being sold at farmer's market on Cordova Street

Tim Stallard

- Sue Salmons and Tim treated 3 forested parks (or about 11 acres) for European bird cherry/*Prunus padus* in May
- They'll be out treating Johns and Mariner parks this week
- They are basal bark spraying with Garlon 4 Ultra or doing frill, cut stump, or foliar applications with Rodeo/AquaMaster (aquatic registered glyphosate) in wet areas or near water; it takes 6-8 weeks for the trees to die; Tobias Schoewer (UAA ISER) lives next to one of the parks, so he'll be working on taking time-lapse photos of the tree dying
- They will have a lot of volunteers in late June and early July; coordinating efforts with Gino and Jesse Moan from CES; this will include some weed pull events during Alaska Invasive Species week
- Airport Heights neighborhood residents interested in controlling bird cherry in Tikishla Park; this park has had a lot of manual and mechanical efforts over the years with limited success; Gino and Tim are working with these 'gung-ho' residents to try some mechanical treatment trials
- Tim was interviewed by an Alaska Public Radio reporter this week related to growing resident interest in foraging for edible plants in parks – and balancing that with concerns about herbicide use; not sure when the story will air...will send link when available
- Anchorage Weed smackdown – July 18th at Russian Jack Park
- Is there a template on suggested contract stipulations related to invasive plants BMPs for maintenance or development projects? This came up at the May Anchorage CWMA meeting

Chris Overbaugh

- May was devoted to field season preparations; we held our annual week-long training for new park staff and interns....Lindsey and her staff did a great job with the non-native plant ID sessions and I think we have a solid group this year to help in the parks
- All of my work trips to the parks are set--I have 1 trip to KATM planned to spray infestations of bird vetch and common dandelion; 2 trips to KEFJ to spray infestations of common dandelion; 1 trip to the Juneau NPS office location to spray orange hawkweed, oxeye daisy and creeping buttercup; 1 trip to KLG0 to spray reed canary grass and spread native seed at a site on the Chilkoot trail; 2 trips to DENA--One to spray bird vetch, narrowleaf hawksbeard and common dandelion and the other to assist with restoration and native seed collection; I'll be assisting WRST and other partners with their annual Glennallen Weedpull event; 1 trip to GLBA planned to spray perennial sow thistle, reed canary grass and tall & creeping buttercup at various sites within the park; and the staff and interns stationed at the parks will be conducting surveys and control work over and above this list throughout the season.

Beth Schultz

- Field crews out and deployed in coastal Alaska

Palmer

Heather Stewart

- Anchorage Elodea: Karin and Heather are following up with the Pesticide Use Permit public comments. The Environmental Assessment is currently out for public commenting until June 15th. Those comments can be sent in writing directly to Heather at 5310 S. Bodenbug Spur Palmer 99645. Logistical work is currently ongoing for the mid-July applications in all three lakes. A public meeting is scheduled for June 17th at 6PM at the Sand Lake Elementary School Cafeteria.
- Canada thistle: All permits are in and public notices out for using herbicides in state-owned right-of-ways. Heather visited a few sites with Pete Johnson, and saw rosettes popping up in areas of their larger herbicide sites from last year. However, at some the smaller sites, she has not seen any rosettes...yet. They will be spot spraying most sites this year.
- Heather has been working with a grower to do herbicide trials on *Poa annua* to see if anything is effective. *Poa annua* is on the noxious weed (seed) list with a restricted tolerance amount of seeds in fields. They will see how it goes.

Fairbanks/Interior

Aditi Shenoy

- Elodea dredging on the Chena River
- Surveying between Fairbanks and Nenana
- Invasive plant inventory on 2000 acre tract of land (Chena area)
- Planning on white sweetclover control in villages on the Yukon

Trish Wurtz

- Harding lake homeowner association meeting focus on keeping Elodea out of the lake
- Will give a talk on June 30th at the Forest Service's Regional Leadership Team meeting focusing on the invasive plants situation in Alaska; especially about Elodea in the Cordova area; this is a really good opportunity to inform the new Tongass Forest Supervisor, Earl Stewart, who moved here from Arizona

Katrina LeMieux

- Working with herbicide applicators in Delta and Richardson HWY on permits
- Trying to improve her program and learning as they go through the process

Steven Seefeldt

- Bird vetch money left-over to do a YouTube video on controlling it; should be ready in a couple of months

Phil Kaspari

- Has been receiving calls concerning Bird vetch; word is getting out to treat it
- Weeds are on schedule in the area
- Soil and Water District secured an emergency exemption to spray on private property; truck is ready to be used on DOT work as their trial run folks (guinea pigs)

10-11 a.m. Board Meeting

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Discussion Points

Libby's position on the Board

- The Board can pick someone to fill the Fed position
- Gino said that voting members were important
- Suggestions were made:
 - John Hudson - Brian Maupin will contact him
 - Gino suggested someone from NRCS as fallback
 - Libby suggested Phil Barber from Homer
 - Other suggestions were John Morton or Trish Wurtz
- The board will vote with Coram

Conference

- Theme discussion –
 - “Invaders in our Backyard”
 - Gino will handle graphic design of the save-the-date flyer
- Gino is getting the catering figured out
- AK Air discount code for the conference participants is only valid for this conference and those specific dates; putting on the list-serve and updating the website
- Gino has a block of rooms at 2 hotels in Juneau – Prospector and Goldbelt
- Sponsors –
 - Heather is adding to Gino's list and helping him with mailing
 - Conoco Philips, BP, Alyeska Pipeline, DOT, AK Mill & Feed, Home Depot some suggested folks to contact
 - Eric Geisler will check into BLM sponsoring
 - Contact Heather if anyone has other suggestions
 - Brian will inquire about local sponsor possibilities such as Sea Alaska

- Speakers
 - Genelle will take over correspondence with Jen as a speaker
 - Venue for John Hudson's talk somewhere other than where the conference is being held
 - Beth talked about Matt Steffy's suggestion to have the CWMA folks talk at the conference to provide awareness and participation; possibly a morning session and/or breakout session for them
 - Heather stated that we need to draft an agenda; can use a copy of an old agenda template to get major themes drawn and go from there
 - Heather said she will begin drafting the agenda including breakout sessions and hands-on workshops

Strategic Plan

- Heather stated that we need to start formatting the sections that are complete
- Matt will be taking care of the Coordination section
- Steve will work to complete his section
- Heather said the first rough draft should be completed by next month's meeting; Kim will help with the formatting; all changes should be made before the rough draft