

Draft CNIPM Monthly Teleconference Notes

May 7, 2014

General Meeting 9-10 a.m.

Teleconference Leader: Katrina LeMieux

Next Meeting: June 4, 2014, 9:00am-10:00am. Leader: Beth Schulz

Attendees:

Steve Seefeldt, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Fairbanks

Gino Graziano - UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Anchorage

Katrina LeMieux-Alaska Department of Transportation, Fairbanks

Beth Schulz-US Forest Service, Anchorage

Dave Lendrum-University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau

Brianne Blackburn - Division of Agriculture, Palmer

Heather Stewart - Division of Agriculture, Palmer

Trish Wurtz – USFS Forest Health Protection, Fairbanks

Brett Nelson- Alaska Department of Transportation, Fairbanks

Mary Stensvold - US Forest Service, Sitka

Elizabeth Bella-Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Soldotna

Genelle Winter - Metlakatla Indian Community

Tim Stallard - Anchorage Park Foundation, Anchorage

Lindsey Flagstad - Alaska Natural Heritage Program, Anchorage

Brian Maupin- Alaska Association of Conservation Districts, Juneau

Patrick Samson-Kuskokwim River Watershed Council, Bethel

Blythe Brown, Kodiak SWCD, Kodiak

Whitney Rapp- Katmai National Park, King Salmon

Sue Salmons-retired NPS

Chris Overbaugh-National Parks Service, Anchorage

Round Robin:

Fairbanks/Interior

Trish Wurtz – attended the April 25th Kenai CWMA Elodea meeting, thought there were good discussions. Is planning on producing temporary tattoos with invasive plant design and ask for suggestions for a design or slogan.

Steve Seefeldt- In Whitehorse, he visited with a neighbor of a person that had leafy spurge in their field. She said that for the last couple of years they have not seen any leafy spurge in the field despite checking multiple times each summer. They are not ready to declare the infestation eradicated and will continue to scout the field for leafy spurge.

Katrina LeMieux- Chena River Watershed Summit later today.

Brett Nelson- No update.

Southcentral:

Heather Stewart- Conducted Aquatic Invasives Species training in April. 19 people attended. Two more trainings are going to be offered: May 20th in Homer and May 21st in Kenai. Next step is to make available via a webinar and this is in development. Heather provided update on work Tim Stallard is doing. At Little Campbell Lake (and two others?) designing signs for Elodea awareness.

Brianne Blackburn – The Division of Agriculture will conduct Weed Free Forage and Gravel Inspector Training May 14th. She also attended the Kenai CWMA Elodea meeting and thought there was good landowner support. DNR's Supplemental EA adding Beck Lake to the Kenai Peninsula Elodea Eradication Project is open for public comment through May 29th. Looking to develop Mat-Su Elodea working group and will meet (met?) with Palmer CWMA. As an outreach effort, she presented to more than 200 people at ****Aviation Conference**** (official name?) with great feedback from audience. Division of Agriculture has some outreach materials available for gardeners and nursery businesses: brochures and posters showing non-invasive plant choices for gardens. For Governor's proclamation of last of June as Alaska Invasive Species week, she is looking for local events planning to coordinate within that week. In the next few weeks, she and Heather will survey Sand Lake.

Gino Graziano– Spent most of April with schools collecting data about chokecherry trees and moose damage to native trees. The focus was on math and analyzing data. He did a poster presentation about this topic at the North American Moose Conference in Girdwood. He will be in Fairbanks for a faculty technology training to develop online format for invasive species lessons for teachers. Seasonal staff is starting up. There was a bird vetch webinar next week. Planning for one more webinar for Thursday May 29th about insect pests. The BMP manual is pending, following more review.

Elizabeth Bella – She attended Kenai CWMA meeting on 4/25 in Soldotna and the elodea stakeholder meeting on 4/24 in Nikiski. The biology staff at the Kenai refuge will start pre-treatment surveys of elodea in 3 lakes (Stormy, Beck, Daniels). Treatment will be in early June or possibly as early as late May depending on funding. She is coordinating with Kate Mohatt (USFS, Girdwood) about genetic testing of elodea samples from the three lakes to contribute to a statewide effort to test all elodea genetics.

Lindsay Flagstad– She is going to be teaching invasive plant identification to new hires for Chris Overbaugh at NPS. She is continuing to work on AKEPIC maintenance.

Chris Overbaugh, NPS – He is doing seasonal preparations and getting ready for annual spring training.

Miranda Terwilliger, NPS, Wrangell-St. Elias NP&P – Couldn't make the call, but submitted an update for the group:

1. The date for the 2014 Glennallen Volunteer Weed Smack Down put on by the Copper Basin CWMA has been set for Saturday, July 12th. Contact Robin Underwood of Wrangell Institute for Science and the Environment (WISE) for more details at runderwood@wise-edu.org or (907) 822-3575.
2. There will also be a logo contest for both the Cordova and Copper Basin CWMA's (one logo for both) that will be announced on multiple partner's facebook pages and the local papers. This

logo will be used to create re-usable banners and create a recognizable logo for the CWMAs. Contact Robin Underwood of WISE for more details at runderwood@wise-edu.org or (907) 822-3575 or Danielle Verna of Copper River Watershed Project at danielle@copperriver.org or (907) 424-3334.

3. The date for the 2014 NPS Kennecott Volunteer Need for Seed has been set for August 23rd. This is an effort to create a native seed bank for both the park and members of the local community to re-vegetate disturbed areas in the Kennecott National Historic District. Contact Megan Weidman, Conservation Land Intern (Chicago Botanic Gardens) at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve at megan_weidman@partner.nps.gov or (907) 822-7283.

Beth Schulz- Getting ready for field season. Working on getting money to Lindsey for AKEPIC support. Landscape Ecology meeting. Reviewing Gino's app.

Sue Salmons- Retired NPS vegetation management specialist who is offering assistance where needed. Contact information: suesalmons@hotmail.com

Southwest

Whitney Rapp- First dandelions in Katmai showing up, so are the new interns.

Blythe Brown- Finalizing funding for the year. Seasonal people now includes dedicated weeds crew, should lead to good archipelago coverage. Have some dedicated funds for Canada thistle and crawfish. She passed out information at the Port Lions Health Fair. She asked Gino and/or Steve to come talk about chemicals.

Pat Samson- April 26th Earth Day presentation on invasive plants which was well received and there was additional interest in aquatic invasives.

Southeast

Genelle Winter– The vehicle rinse and reclaim will be set up next week at the ferry terminal in Metlakatla. With AAEP money, has two people for invasive plant work. She is help start a community garden. The garden brochure will be helpful. Has a funding request in to ? for a European green crab survey.

Dave Lendrum - It is sunny and beautiful in the southeast. Bohemian knotweed at Twin Lakes: the areas that had been tarped and then treated: looks like overall success, just a couple of small starts formed by willow in areas that hadn't been treated. University campus tarps will be removed this year and be treated in September. When bird vetch appears, 2-4d treatment is planned.

Mary Stensvold – Regional Invasive Species issue team meeting in April. Worked on editing strategy. She asked about holly plants and potential for infestation.

Brian Maupin – IPP grants: 12 awarded. They fully funded top 3: SESWCD in Haines, CRWP reed canary grass control, and a tribal conservation project (?). He will start pulling garlic mustard. SESWCD has invasive plant tech posting.

Discussion: Nothing passed in the legislature and conservation districts got less money than usual.

Board Meeting Notes:

Conference

Gino had contacted many hotels for the conference (Oct. 28-29) and sent out a list of three to the board. The board chose the Marriott as the conference location. The board discussed themes, format and presenters for the upcoming conference:

- Trainings on the third day? Possibly just a half day.
- Board meeting on the day before was suggested. Gino said we could have it in his offices.
- Nightmare under the Surface theme. Gino said poster could be sure to show the seed bank component.
- Discussed outside speakers. Brianne will follow up with Katie about her previous suggestions.
- We should have an earthworm speaker.

Brianne will send out a conference overview so far.

Alaska Invasive Species Week

The last week of June

Brianne mentioned that she would like CNIPM to put something out, not just DNR

Tim said Anchorage is planning a weed pull...Chugach and on Saturday the city park(s?) will have a fix it event

Subcommittees: Try to organize subcommittee meeting before field season.