



Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting Minutes



Monday, November 2nd, 2020 9:00am to 9:49am
Meeting Via Teleconference

Control Board: Jerry Kolke, Bill Zimmerman, Lee Wells, Randy Lawffer, Lisa Nelski, Justin O’Dea*

Clark County Staff:

Parks and Lands: Galina Burley*, Kevin Tyler, Justin Collell, Chris Walker, Denielle Cowley

Guests: None

* Not Present

9:02pm Called to Order – Justin Collell

Time	Action Item
9:04am	MOTION BY: Bill Zimmerman SECOND BY: Lee Wells
	MOTION: Motion to adopt May 4, 2020 minutes as submitted
	DISCUSSION:
	IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None ABSTAINED: None

Time	Action Item
9:05am	MOTION BY: Bill Zimmerman SECOND BY: Jerry Kolke
	MOTION: Motion to adopt July 6, 2020 minutes as submitted
	DISCUSSION:
	IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None ABSTAINED: None

2) Latest Update from Coordinator – Justin Collell

- a) See email from October

3) Proposed State Noxious Weed List Changes - Justin Collell

- a) State hearing regarding two new weeds 11/10/2020 (see email)
 - i) Drooping sedge
 - ii) Spanish thistle

4) Continue Discussion of noxious weed assessment – Justin Collell

- a) Feedback from board regarding assessment as option to fund field inspection program:
 - i) Lee Wells – Supports fee per parcel and sunset policy
 - ii) Lisa Nelski – Supports fee of \$2 or less per parcel
 - iii) Bill Zimmerman – Supports fee pf \$2 or less per parcel

- iv) Jerry Kolke – Supports fee per parcel - supports sunset policy if Weed Board has control over length and review of it
- v) Randy Lawffer – Supports fee of \$2 or less per parcel and sunset policy
- b) Justin will send draft statements to Jerry Kolke – Should be able to provide draft statement of what weed board supports by February meeting

5) Items from the Board – Jerry Kolke

- a) Bill Zimmerman asked about Vancouver Lake – Justin gave update:
 - i) Treatment went well – survey in August did not find milfoil
 - ii) Survey was during an algae bloom
 - iii) Curly leaf pondweed numbers were down
 - iv) Next step is to survey next spring and see what comes back
 - v) FOVL treated the flushing channel
 - vi) No milfoil found in Lake River, Burnt Bridge does have some milfoil
 - vii) Vancouver Lake could go into a maintenance mode
- b) Bill Zimmerman asked about the Union Ridge 5 infraction – the invoice has not been paid as of yet

9:49am Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Chris Walker, Secretary

Upcoming Meeting:

Date: February 1, 2021
Time: 9:00am to 11:00am
Location: TBD

From: Justin Collell
Sent: Thursday, October 8, 2020 4:20 PM
Subject: Noxious Weed Control Board Update

Hello Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board,
I'd like to provide a recap of the unique situation 2020 has brought our program. So far this year, I have issued 8 civil infractions, as follows:

\$750.00 fine to Burlington Northern Santa Fe for **Milk thistle**
\$750.00 fine to City of Vancouver for **Milk thistle**
\$500.00 fine to Washington Dept. of Transportation for **Tansy ragwort**
(2) \$500.00 fines to SRC 119th Cottages LLC for two properties with **Poison hemlock**
\$750.00 fine to Promenade LLC for **Milk thistle**
\$500.00 fine to Bella Vista Heights HOA for **Policeman's helmet (impatiens glandulifera)**
\$500.00 fine to Union Ridge 5 LLC for **Poison hemlock** (appealed and hearing completed, the fine was upheld).

In each case, I issued a fine after exhausting every other option available. The landowners who received a fine this year all have received past notices and information from our office; it's not a this-year-only problem. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have. Past coordinators have never decided to fine these bigger entities, (city, state, BNSF), but I want to hold them to the same standards as every private landowner, in a spirit of fairness under the law. I expect this will yield gains next year as more landowners support this fair approach.

I think it is very unlikely that I will need to issue any more fines this year. I do need to continue to educate landowners about knotweed, but most of the time, they control or allow us to control knotweed with the WSDA knotweed grant. Starting the enforcement process on uncooperative landowners who have knotweed is a remote possibility.

I have decided to send a Land Management Plan, (LMP) to nine (9) landowners who haven't completed adequate control work, but didn't get a fine this year. These 9 landowners were not the worst offenders this year, (the worst offenders were the ones who got the fines), but I want to have them to agree to a plan to manage their noxious weeds ahead of next year's growing season.

This year we discovered the largest infestation of Milk thistle any of us have ever seen on Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) land, near the north side of the Ross Complex. There is also Milk thistle on adjoining Clark County Railroad Right of Way. We worked with BPA to begin eradication of this enormous threat. They have started to work on it, but much work remains to bring it under control long-term.

The field inspection season is winding up and we've closed almost all our reports. Even with the limitations of the novel coronavirus, the field inspection program wrote 839 reports of noxious weeds. With tactful communication, the field inspectors were able to gain landowners' voluntary compliance with the law a huge majority of the time this year. I commend them for their hard work. The Vegetation Management department as a whole pulled & bagged over 6000 pounds of tansy ragwort **flowers alone** (not whole plants) from county roads this year, filling over 300 garbage bags.

The WSDA knotweed grant is underway and I'm surveying Cedar Creek in north county. Every other year, I have had a team of temporary workers to help me carry out the grant, but this year I've done all the surveying alone so far.

I've heard that next year's budget situation will likely be very similar to this year. Without the staff to adequately survey the county, we will miss some infestations. When some landowners with noxious weeds are not educated and the law is not enforced, we are failing our mandate somewhat. A noxious weed assessment would take our program out of the county's general fund and provide more consistent revenue. I'm not expecting that the county will want to push for this change right away, but I am hopeful that the conversation about an assessment will continue and options will be explored in the future.

Best,

Justin Collell
Coordinator, Clark County Noxious Weed Control Board
Lead Field Inspector, Vegetation Management
Office: 360.397.6140 Cell: 360.624.2289

From: Fee, Mary (AGR) <MFee@agr.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 4:04 PM
Subject: Proposed Noxious Weed List Changes

Dear Coordinators,

It is that time of year again!! We are getting closer to the State Noxious Weed List Hearing. Below are the details for the hearing and proposed changes to the noxious weed list. I have also attached the written findings for the two class A proposals, the CR 102 (legal document for proposed changes to the WAC), and OTS (the official WAC 16.750 language changes). The written findings go into detail about the noxious weed species including identification, distribution, and impacts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Mary Fee
Executive Secretary
WA State Noxious Weed Control Board
360-902-2053 (office)
360-561-4428 (cell)
www.nwcb.wa.gov

The State Weed Board welcomes your comments about the proposed changes to the 2021 noxious weed list. The Board is considering two new Class A noxious weeds, a number of Class B noxious weed designation changes, as well as updating noxious weed scientific names based on the updated Flora of the Pacific Northwest. You can submit written testimony by email to noxiousweeds@agr.wa.gov or mail letters to WSNWCB; P.O. Box 42560; Olympia, WA 98504-2560 by Monday, November 9th, or you can attend our public hearing that starts at 1:00 p.m. on WebEx Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Please contact Mary Fee (mfee@agr.wa.gov or 360-902-2053) for information on attending the public hearing and the State Weed Board Meeting later that same day at 1:00 pm.

Proposed changes:

Class A proposed additions

- Turkish thistle, *Carduus cinereus*, as a Class A noxious weed – Turkish thistle is a newly identified non-native thistle found close to Washington in northeastern Oregon and the adjacent area in Idaho. Listed as a noxious weed in Oregon and Idaho, Turkish thistle invades open habitats and can readily spread and crowd out native species. [Find out more about Turkish thistle on our website here.](#)
- Hanging sedge, *Carex pendula*, as a Class A noxious weed – Hanging sedge is an evergreen, perennial, clumping sedge with tall arching stems having long, hanging spikes. Introduced ornamentally, this sedge grows in shaded areas with wet soils in a variety of habitats, notably along edges of streams and creeks. Find out more about [hanging sedge on our website here.](#)

Class B designation proposed changes: When a Class B noxious weed is designated for control in a county, control will be required of that noxious weed in that county. When a noxious weed is undesignated for control in a county, the WSNWCB will not require control of that Class B noxious weed in that county--though a county noxious weed control board may still require control and/or still prioritize control of that noxious weed locally.

- [Non-native hawkweeds in the wall subgenus \(*Hieracium*\)](#): undesignate in Snohomish County
- [Ravenna grass \(*Saccharum ravennae*\)](#): designate in Chelan County
- [Myrtle spurge \(*Euphorbia myrsinites*\)](#): designate in Stevens County
- [Saltcedar \(*Tamarix ramosissima*\)](#): designate in Benton and Franklin counties
- [Spurge laurel \(*Daphne laureola*\)](#): designate in Skamania County
- [Tansy ragwort \(*Jacobaea vulgaris*\)](#): designate in Klickitat County
- [Velvetleaf \(*Abutilon theophrasit*\)](#): designate in Franklin County

- [Water primrose \(*Ludwigia hexapetala*\)](#): designate in Cowlitz County
- [White bryony \(*Bryonia alba*\)](#): designate in Garfield County
- [Wild chervil \(*Anthriscus sylvestris*\)](#): designate in Cowlitz, Clark, Island, and Skamania counties
- [Yellow archangel \(*Lamium galeobdolon*\)](#): designate in Cowlitz County
- [Yellow floating heart \(*Nymphoides peltata*\)](#): designate in Cowlitz County

Proposed scientific name updates

- *Anchusa arvensis*, annual bugloss to *Lycopsis arvensis*
- *Polygonum cuspidatum*, Japanese knotweed to *Fallopia japonica*
- *Polygonum sachalinense*, giant knotweed to *Fallopia sachalinensis*
- *Polygonum x bohemicum*, Bohemian knotweed to *Fallopia x bohémica*
- *Saccharum ravennae*, Ravenna grass to *Tripidium ravennae*
- *Matricaria perforata*, scentless mayweed to *Tripleurospermum inodorum*
- *Silene latifolia* ssp. *alba*, white cockle to *Silene latifolia*
- *Centaurea x moncktonii*, meadow knapweed to *Centaurea x gerstlaueri*
- *Zostera japonica*, Japanese eelgrass to *Nanozostera japonica*