



**Northwest Invasive Plant Council
Fall Meeting 2009**

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **Tuesday, November 17th, 2009**

TIME: **10:00 – 4:10**

PLACE: **Bon Voyage Hotel and Restaurant, Prince George, BC**

CONTRACTOR FORUM: Facilitator, Andrea Eastham

- Strategic Approach: Priority sites, species, which weeds to kill in which places, possibly train Hot Spots crews to rehabilitate sites
- Contracts: 3yr vs. yearly renewals – Funding always a factor
- Submit Invasive Plant Management Area (IPMA) plans early – Board will make decisions 30 days after submissions of IPMA contracts
- Start on First Nations contracts earlier in year so can start on time for season; recommend to membership that the agreements have 3-year renewal clauses
- EDRR and containment – in matrix – strategic plan and profile
- Bob, Andrea and Matt to look over maps about containment lines
- Dates for pre-work, Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) training for contractors only; include First Nations; early May, have 1 session in the east, 1 session in the west, possibly Terrace and Prince George
- Data entry change for contractors – Laura is able to do this, contact Andrea or her for changes in data entry
- Protocol on residential areas, private land, chemical use – Andrea to put something together for contractor's review



LUNCH – Sponsored NWIPC and

NWIPC members were welcomed by Mayor Dan Rogers of the City of Prince George and praised our continuing efforts in invasive plant management.



MEMBERS MEETING:

- Reviewed tasks from last meeting

PROGRESS ON ACTION ITEMS FROM APRIL 7th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ACTION ITEM	WHO	WHEN
Notify Denise McLean if you know of any sites suitable for using Milestone within the PFZ; for use by David Ralph	Members	Ongoing
Send letter that Merci Hillis is using to solicit funds for more First Nations IP work to whole membership	Andrea	Done
Ideas/suggestions that don't cost a lot of money on maintaining potted weeds all year for educational purposes	Members	Wendy trying to maintain weeds throughout year – Wendy will write up form for plant maintenance this winter.
Prepare written proposal to find funds to uplift 50/50 program to a \$1000 limit.	Shirley Hamblin, John Davidson, Clint Walker	For 2010 season-work on this winter
TC containment line loaded into IAPP	Laura Kristiansen	Done
Let members know how to obtain Spotters & Specialists presentation for them to use in their local area.	Andrea	This year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pesticide issues committee: Report from Jerry Daoust, committee chair

- Committee met on November 4th
- PMP development for use in 2010 field season; multi-agency for the whole north; MFR taking the lead; consultation with First Nations ongoing as part of process; proposed area for PMP includes Haida Gwaii; PMP covers crown land managed by a government ministry only, not regional districts, municipalities, or private companies; advertisement for PMP was reviewed by Ministry of Environment (MOE) and approved
- NWIPC and NEIPC members have been working on the issue of inclusion of Milestone in Integrated Pest Management Regulations #74; so far no success
- The MOE Integrated Pest Management unit (Jerry and Manny Mariotto) performed ride-alongs with two NWIPC contractors; to develop a working relationship so they are a resource to the contractors; to learn more about how the IPMA contractors have to work day to day; key concerns were a) inadequate signage on herbicide storage boxes, and b) unlocked dry boxes containing herbicides during a scheduled inspection.



Note: Warning stickers for pesticide storage are available from NWIPC Program Manager and Jerry; emphasis on all safety rules will be given during the mandatory contractor training

- **ACTION:** Peter Mohammed asked for definition for residential herbicide use – committee will take care of this

Education and Awareness: Report from Ian Hayes, committee chair

- ‘Wanted Dead’ signs available from Ian; signs are 8½ x 11 on plastic core board for posting on trails, rural mail box stops, etc.
- Myrtle Muldoe suggested Board of Directors meeting for First Nations to see how the directors work

Common Tansy Containment Line: Report from Graeme Johnstone

- see Action Items Above; retire this committee
- Recommendation for a Containment Line Committee
- Marc Schuffert appointed chair of new committee
- New committee and chair **APPROVED**

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT AREA REPORTS

Each of the seven IPMAs had a report presented by the contractor or read out from a report written by the contractor.

Robson Valley, Beryl Hagen:

- New contractor for this IPMA in 2009; huge learning curve at the beginning
- Difficulties with data in IAPP; many sites have had no data entry since 2001
- Many new chicory sites; individuals or a few plants, so eliminated
- 3 passes and more in the Mount Robson Park; 35 new spotted knapweed (SK) sites
- Marsh plume thistle (MT) spreading in Kinbasket area and susceptible habitat means potential for further spread
- See a reduction in SK on the old mill site in Valemount and the adjoining private and race track properties
- Ongoing distribution of awareness information in Valemount and McBride

Prince George, Spectrum Resources Group, Peter Mohammed and Darrell Hill:

- Treated orange hawkweed (OH) and oxeye (OD) daisy in Pine Pass corridor south of Azouetta Lodge in support of the North East Invasive Plant Committee as per the approved 2009 NWIPC Workplan
- Helped coordinate the Prince George Corrections crew with Becky Brown, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
- Provided staff to help out at NWIPC events
- Worked with the Cariboo Regional District staff to the south to limit the spread of marsh plume thistle
- 82% of budget went to inventory, monitoring and treatment of sites; remainder on data entry, awareness and administration
- 3 passes on all known SK sites and added more new sites



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- All known MT sites outside of the containment polygon had 3 passes
 - Common tansy (TC) seems to be closely associated with railroad and highway r.o.w.
 - IAPP data clean up during season; collected new and improved data

Vanderhoof, Matt Harder:

- **Motion:** Matt moved to remove the Fort Fraser Containment line for field scabious; all in favor; **APPROVED.**

Burns Lake, Spectrum Resources Group, Peter Mohammed and Darrell Hill:

- 81% of budget went to inventory, monitoring and treatment of sites; remainder on data entry, awareness and administration
- All known SK sites had 3 passes; improvements to IAPP data for existing sites
- Now several SK sites that have been clear for two years
- Two known field scabious (FS) sites visited multiple times
- TC was a high priority and most sites received 3 passes; problem on railway tracks
- Large infestations of mountain bluet (MO) were treated and existing sites were visited at least twice
- Marked increase in presence on south side of Francois Lake and more private landowner involvement

Houston, Nadina Agricultural Services, Shirley Hamblin:

- Represented NWIPC with display and extension materials at cattlemen's meetings in Houston area in early winter
- New contractor for this IPMA in 2009; start-up slow and lots to learn

Stikine-Skeena, Graeme's Agricultural Services, Graeme Johnstone:

- Assisted in delivering IP training in Dease Lake
- Increased coordination with First Nations in IP inventory and treatment
- MT treated chemically and manually; 2nd pass was cutting; first year of treatment and inventory with the containment line down!
- TC and SK all had 3 passes
- TC is spreading and getting worse in the Meziadin area
- SK, brown and diffuse knapweed sites all reduced in population
- Excellent year for SK seed germination; site treated in June and July with less than 100 plants each visit, had over 300 plants in August!
- A single SK plant found 10 km south of Bell 2, no where near any other sites
- Assisted NWIPC with Tlell fair, monitored treated sites on Haida Gwaii IPMA, and helped train and coordinate the Invasive Plant Council's (IPC) Hot Spot crew that worked out of Terrace

Haida Gwaii, Keith Alexander:

- Work on broom at Naikoon Provincial Park started in April



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- Community Weed Pull and Junior Foresters helped later in season with pulling young broom seedlings
 - Gorse treatment continued on existing sites with an observed reduction in growth since 2008; a couple of sites required the removal of old mature plants; no new sites found
 - Cutting and pulling of Japanese knotweed (JK) was done, but less amount than previous year as the treatment seems ineffective
 - Pumping sea water on Himalayan knotweed (PO) continued and the plants appeared dead by end of season with new plants invading the area; will have to see PO response in spring 2010
 - Despite the limitations, it may be worthwhile to promote this method to the two Haida villages where Himalayan is rampant, and the areas infested are low-slope with soil
 - Investigating the use of stem injection of glyphosate as a possible tool where on Haida Gwaii all other treatment options have been exhausted without success
 - Burdock and bull thistle treated again on highway from Skidegate to Port Clements and some had zero re-growth
 - Canada thistle still problematic and treatments used to date are mainly just containing sites
 - Hawkweed and MT are singular sites and annual manual treatment appears to be keeping them from spreading, but not eliminating
 - Completed trip to Eden Lake for tansy ragwort that appears to not be spreading
 - Yellow iris site hand-pulled late season once it appeared

FIRST NATIONS REPORTS: Facilitator, Merci Hillis

ACTION: First Nations contracts to be changed into ongoing three-year agreements, but always subject to funding.

- First Nations need the IAPP training when available
- Stressed that Site Id Forms must be filled out properly with location descriptions!

CONTRACTOR AWARDS

Program Manager, Andrea Eastham, again gave each IPMA contractor an award in recognition of their hardwork and commitment in 2009.

NWIPC SEASON SUMMARY AND PLAN AND PROFILE

- Summary of 2009 season following the 2009 Business Plan was presented by Program Manager, Andrea Eastham
- Need to make changes to the strategic plan in terms of the description of the two program levels that guide the IPMA contractors in making decisions whether to treat or not to treat
- Changes to the written plan will better reflect how the contractors have been working on the ground in fact; difficulty has been the spread of hawkweeds to the point where they are not being treated because other invasive species that we still can control the spread need to be treated; the example given was orange



hawkweed on one side of the highway vs SK on the other and you only have the money to treat one of them.

NWIPC BUSINESS

Multi-agency Pest Management Plan (PMP), Bob Drinkwater

- Covers all of NWIPC and the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee
- Contractors will only have one PMP rather than several in their binders
- Timeline: notifications should've gone out to First Nations; ads will be running Nov 23 and Dec 7
- Meetings can be called with First Nations.
- Still a document open to changes; trying to be done by April
- Consultation of PMP; if questions, direct to Bob
- Discussions at this meeting will be logged as multi-corporation not just as Gitksan or First Nations

Possible Permit – Milestone

- Conference call happening on Monday
- Recommendation to review regulation 74 of the Integrated Pest Management Act as their ability to change a regulation is not in place
- Only way to use Milestone is to apply for permit each year
- NWIPC to send a letter of support to NEIPC to persuade the Minister of Environment to review the problem

ACTION ITEMS FROM NOVEMBER 17TH 2009 FALL MEETING

ACTION ITEM	WHO	WHEN
Notify Denise McLean if you know of any sites suitable for using Milestone within the PFZ; for use by David Ralph	Members	Ongoing
Potted weed display maintenance	Wendy Siemens	Winter 09/10
Prepare written proposal to find funds to uplift 50/50 program to a \$1000 limit.	Shirley Hamblin	For 2010 season-work on this winter
Definition of the term “residential” in regards to pesticide use	Pesticide Issues Committee – Jerry	For 2010 field season
Change First Nation Partnership Agreements to 3-year renewable, funding available	Merci Hillis	For 2010 field season
Changes to written strategic plan in 2010 draft that reflect discussions from fall meeting	Bob Drinkwater/Andrea Eastham	Month before AGM
Write letter to NEIPC in support of their efforts to persuade MOE to review the issues around changing regulations	Andrea Eastham	This winter