



Northwest Invasive Plant Council, NWIPC

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, April 2, 2008, 10:00 TO :00 PM

Tweedsmuir Rod and Gun Club

Burns Lake, BC

Attendees:

Amy Barnes	Andrea Eastham	Bob Drinkwater
Denise McLean	Bob Fowler	Chris Johnstone
Claire Watkins	Darrell Hill	Graeme Johnstone
Ian Hayes	Jerry Daoust	Josh Pressey
Laura Kristiansen	Manny Mariotto	Marc Schuffert
Matt Harder	Paul Glover	Peter Mohammed
Ryan Spillett	Wendy Siemens	Rosamund Pojar
Marg Mackinnon	Colleen Ettinger	John Davidson
Ralph Roy	Lila DeLury	Frank Varga
Tracey Coombes	Christine Friedrichsmeier	Tom Shelford

Meeting start 10:00 a.m.

- 1 Around the room introductions**
- 2 Review and accept minutes from last meeting**
 - 2.1 Motion to accept by Bob Flower.
- 3 Review action items from last meeting**

Tasks From November 20th, 2007 Meeting

ACTION ITEM	WHO	WHEN
Needs to prepare a "position statement"	MPB committee of NWIPC	<i>Issue being dealt with under FSPs, MFR Range staff disseminating IP information.</i>
Read the guidebook and get back to NWIPC with comments or ideas	Bob Fowler	<i>To be completed by April 30, 2008.</i>
Develop a Field scabious containment plan for the Vanderhoof IPMA.	Bob Drinkwater and Matt Harder	Done
Bring a cost estimate for treating large Field scabious site behind containment line.	Matt Harder	Ongoing
Submit your favourite NWIPC related photos to add to the new website. Send to Andrea Eastham or Cathy McKay. Please send good quality ones!	All members	ASAP
Take Funding Request to any groups	All NWIPC Members	Ongoing

ACTION ITEM	WHO	WHEN
who could potentially help secure funding.		
Arrange a meeting on the QCI to discuss M. Cheney's legacy and the IPMA contract.	Andrea Eastham	<i>Done, sub-committee set up to recommend a contractor.</i>

4 Committee Reports

4.1 Pesticide issues

4.1.1 Discussion around Milestone, would like to see changes to allow use in wetted areas where glyphosate is not a good alternative. MOE still looking at adding Milestone to provincial regulations.

4.2 Enforcement and compliance

IPC has produced guidebook "A Legislative Guidebook to Invasive Plant Management in BC" <http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca/publications/ipcbc-reports/IPC3-Legislative-Guidebook.pdf> summarizing all levels of legislation that pertain to invasive plant management.

4.3 Awareness and Extension

4.3.1 In 2007 produced t-shirts and hats (new), 4 table top displays

4.3.2 New for 2008 business cards with website, update NWIPC black "Noxious weeds" brochure change text from "weeds" to invasive plants (IPs), stickers and window clings (new ones will be produced facing the correct way).

4.4 Tansy containment

4.4.1 No news since Fall meeting where possible containment line was proposed.

5 IPC Report, Denise McLean

5.1 IPC will receive funding to continue operations.

5.2 Research on the economic impact of IPs is being conducted, this is very important, expected to be completed in spring 2009.

5.3 Producing T.I.P.S. (Targeted Invasive Plant Solutions) education and awareness material. Check them all out on the IPC website (www.ipcbc.ca)

5.4 The IPC website is being updated, expect the new page in June. The new webpage will have IP information, an interactive events calendar and a collection of resources and publications.

5.5 Hosting an IP research forum, "Current Projects and Future Trends" October 29 and 30, 2008 in Richmond.

5.6 Linda Wilson is the new leader of the MAL (Ministry of Agriculture and Lands) invasive plant team, she is an orange hawkweed specialist.

5.7 It has been proposed for IPC to set up a trust fund to fund invasive plant work in the province. This would be similar to Nature Conservatory trust fund. IPC is looking to build the initial fund and is looking for contributors. The revenue from the fund would be divided among the regional weed committees to fund activities.

5.7.1 Comment: *Public awareness is the single most important thing we can do to increase funding and this is why groups like the NWIPC are so important.*



6 2007 Financials and Annual Report

- 6.1 Draft available at meeting for feedback. The 2007 Annual Report is still in draft form because not all the financials have been reconciled.
- 6.2 Operational pooled funds are used for control activities and education and awareness
- 6.3 New partners in 2007, City of Prince George, Village of Valemount and Thompson Mining (Endako mine).
- 6.4 Discussion around difficulties of obtaining partners, especially Municipalities. Difficulties with the public perception of what is a weed (dandelion vs. spotted knapweed) and what constitutes weed control (mowing roadsides vs. plant removal). NWIPC is still missing partners with some regional districts, and municipalities, and there are no timber companies involved.
- 6.5 Disbursements, all the data for the QCI has not been entered so these numbers will change.
- 6.6 From the 2007 Annual Report concerns because the total number of treatment sites is less than 2006. Action: Bob D. looking into cause.
- 6.7 Discussion around retirement and the need for directors. Interest group elects the directors. Directors are limited to 2, three-year terms; in the next year Bob Drinkwater will be retiring from the board. Directors do receive an honorarium for attending board meetings.
- 6.8 Events and awareness for 2007, Horticultural Industry Blitz was successful. For 2007 NWIPC needs to cover more businesses.
 - 6.8.1 Garden centers in Atlin and Dease Lake have been selling IPs, need to convince them to stop selling IPs.

7 Strategic Plan and profile 2008, Bob Drinkwater.

- 7.1 Proposed changes sent to the membership prior to the AGM:
 - 7.1.1 Move Bluet, mountain to category 2. This means that contractors will be asked to inventory and remove infestations. Approved, moved by Ralph Roy.
 - 7.1.2 Change formatting of IP category lists to clarify table lists.
 - 7.1.3 Remove Safflower (category 4) from the NWIPC IP list. Approved.
- 7.2 Proposed changes that were circulated to the membership were approved.

8 Proposed 2008 Action Plan and Budget

- 8.1 2008 Work Plan, Approved by membership.
- 8.2 2008 Budget 2.0 Operational pooled funds, Ministry of Transportation, possible change to contribution from \$ 200 000 to \$ 195 000 to accommodate the expansion of the weed committee in the North Peace.
- 8.3 2008 Budget uplifts, Approved by membership, moved by Bob Fowler.
 - 8.3.1 Question: Targeted Grazing project, is there going to be funding from NWIPC? NWIPC has contributed Program Assistant Amy Barnes's time and salary to research and prepare the project to date. Amy is applying to other funding agencies to help cover the total cost of the project.

9 Program Delivery for 2008. Discussions and ideas from members

- 9.1 Promotion and Awareness for 2008



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- 9.1.1 Previously discussed.
 - 9.2 Hotline
 - 9.2.1 New for 2008 – when someone reports to the hotline callers will be asked if they want to be notified after work is done. This will become another item on the contractor hotline reports.
 - 9.3 Projects
 - 9.3.1 FREP (Forest and Range Evaluation Program), project with MFR to produce provincial ID cards.
 - 9.3.2 Potted Plants, last year’s keepers agreed to do the job again this year.
 - 9.3.3 UNBC Thistle, application in but not approved yet.
 - 9.3.4 Buck Flats, application in but not approved yet.
 - 9.3.5 Fort Fraser 50/50, application in but not approved yet.
 - 9.3.6 Website, suppose to be up this week.
 - 9.3.7 Supported Merci Hillis to attend the international Weeds Across Borders Conference in Banff.
 - 9.3.8 Community Weed Pulls, would like to run again in 2008. Already have applicants.
 - 9.3.9 4-H Poster Contest, good return for a small expense, would like to expand the program to other fall fairs.
 - 9.4 Contract renewal for 2008, contractors completed an IPMA Plan which described the work to be done in their IPMA for 2008. This was used as a tool to renew all of the current IPMA contractors at base budgets of \$ 45 000.
 - 9.5 Corrections program, provides (mostly) free labour and is a good asset. The cost to NWIPC was measured in support time to the crews. Corrections program will happen again in 2008, however it has not been finalized who will cover NWIPC and contractor coordination and support costs to the corrections crews.
 - 9.5.1.0 Are the correction crew just hand-pulling? Yes, only manual control.
 - 9.5.1.1 What were the problems with the corrections program? A lack of “bush skills” with the corrections crew, ex. using a GPS, not fully understanding invasive plant biology and need follow up schedule. There is also a high turnover rate in Corrections staff and this has hampered program delivery. Ideally someone would coordinate with the Corrections Team once a week during the summer and more often at the beginning of the season.

10 Partners and potential partners

- 10.1 MFR, have committed to \$ 200 000 grant.
- 10.2 MOT, anticipate funding to be approximately \$ 195 000.
- 10.3 BCTC, committed in 2007 to 10 000/year for 3 years.
- 10.4 CN, in communication with but no financial commitment yet.
- 10.5 PNG, no indication of funding yet.
- 10.6 MOE, Parks and Protected Areas (PPA), they do not have an IP program or a budget. NWIPC will keep putting pressure on the ministry to get them to understand that this is an important issue.
- 10.7 City of PG has committed to NWIPC being able to invoice up to \$ 5000 in work done.
- 10.8 City of Smithers, no indication of funding yet.



- 10.9 District of Houston, increased support for 2008 from \$ 2000 to \$ 3500
- 10.10 Valemount, new partner for 2008, \$ 2000.
- 10.11 Working on developing more partners especially with the remaining regional districts and municipalities. Looking for partners in the timber, oil and gas, mining and horticultural industries.

11 Invasive Alien Plant Program update, Laura Kristiansen

- 11.1 Containment lines and IPMA boundaries
 - 11.1.1 Containment lines will be added in other parts of the province with the new release (1.6).
- 11.2 Training & data access and entry for 2008
 - 11.2.1 Contractor training will be held tomorrow, all other NWIPC members who would like training should contact Andrea Eastham. Data entry for 2008 will be the same as last year until the new version of IAPP is released (1.6)
- 11.3 New version release, coming in July 2008 IAPP version 1.6. This version will change the way data is entered, increase functionality of extracts and contain an online weed reporting system for the entire province.

12 Other Agenda Items

- 12.1 Get a new pesticide use committee member from MOE.

Meeting end 3:58 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEM	WHO	WHEN
NWIPC write a letter to the appropriate MOE authority expressing the desire to have Milestone added to provincial regulations for use in wetted areas. Encourage other IP committees to send letters as well.	Andrea Eastham	Report back at fall meeting.
Update committee members list.	Andrea Eastham	Report back at fall meeting.
Create a list of available promotional material and circulate to membership.	Amy Barnes	This field season.
Review available promotional material list and submit requests for materials and display booths for events.	NWIPC Membership	This field season.
Order IP ID carabineers.	Awareness and Extension committee	This field season
Number of 2007 treated sites is much less than the number of 2006 sites. Need to explain this difference.	Andrea Eastham, Bob Drinkwater	Report back at fall meeting.



ACTION ITEM	WHO	WHEN
Directors are preparing to retire and certain membership groups are not represented on the Board of Directors.	Members need to elect new and replacement directors.	ASAP
Horticultural industry blitz, submit appropriate businesses' contact information (to Andrea Eastham) so that they can be included in the 2008 blitz.	All members.	ASAP
Garden centers in Atlin and Dease Lake have been selling IPs. Need to find a way to contact them to discourage this practice.	IPC members, Andrea Eastham.	Report back at fall meeting.
Contact Government Agency offices in Atlin and Dease Lake to post IP information.	Andrea Eastham	This field season
Add Le Poiven (Fraser Lake), BB (Houston), and Alpine (Smithers) greenhouses to awareness list. Add Riverside greenhouse to 2007 list.	Andrea Eastham	This field season
Contact Yukon government to explain how IPs are a big issue and that they are needed to be part of the solution.	Andrea Eastham	This field season.
Apply to Federal Agencies for increased funding for specific projects, ex. Gitxsan.	Andrea Eastham	This field season
Submit expansion ideas to Education and Awareness Committee.	All members.	ASAP.
Communicated IP issue and funding need to provincial MOE staff.	Andrea Eastham	This field season.
Develop new partners, especially the remaining RDs, municipalities and timber, mining, oil & gas and horticultural industries.	All members.	ASAP.
Get a new committee member, for Pesticides issues from MOE.	MOE staff	Report back at fall meeting.