

# WILLAMETTE MAINSTEM COOPERATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, Sept. 17 2013

1:00-3:00 pm

Benton SWCD, 456 Northwest Monroe Avenue #110, Corvallis

## Agenda w/ Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Jeff Baker, Bud Baumgartner, Holly Crosson, Crystal Durbecq, Peter Kenagy, Debra Paul, Kendra Smith, Brad Withrow-Robinson, and Scott Youngblood

### Updates

- Survey findings/permissions
  - Scott – Mentioned Princess trees and asked if anyone has seen them spreading. He has been seeing them on gravel bars on the Willamette, fairly regularly.
  - Crystal – We have received draft data sets for our second year of survey work and will receive our final data sets by 9/30.
    - Our total acreage surveyed is 2,550 acres; 950 ac. surveyed in 2013 and 1,600 ac. surveyed in 2012.
    - Total high quality habitat mapped is 385 ac., which is about 15% of the total land surveyed.
    - Percentage of high quality habitat (HQH) by land ownership is as follows:
      - State = 23% of all state land surveyed was HQH
      - City = 9% " "
      - Private land = 13% " "
- Water primrose presentation w/ Brenda Grewell
  - Crystal – Sept. 27, Corvallis Depot, 9:30 – 11:30 am
    - Are there specific topics anyone would like to see covered?
  - Holly – Will direct your questions on *Ludwigia* to Brenda.
  - Kendra – Would like to know more about the control methods, timing, herbicide (type and concentrations), techniques, problems with state/federal regulations, isolation strategies (draining or others).
    - Would like to know if the presentation could be filmed, or if we could get a copy of the presentation for those who will miss it.

- Holly – Knows that there is research exploring biocontrols for Ludwigia; wondering if limno-curtains have been used or lowering the water level.
  - Brenda is a Research Ecologist and should have the knowledge to answer these questions.
- Peter – Interested in attending boat trip to look at invasive primrose if there is room on the boat.
- Half Moon Bend ivy and clematis treatments
  - Crystal – Initial treatment on Aug. 1, and monitored site on Sept. 5
    - Hired Diego Franco to do ivy and clematis treatments
    - The herbicide concentrations were as follows:
      - Glyphosate (Rodeo) 80% and 2% Vegetable surfactant for wiping cut vines
      - 4% Glyphosate, 2% surfactant and 2% Triclopyr (Element 3a) for foliar spray
    - Have established monitoring plots (3 for ivy and 1 for clematis), and provided before and after pics.
    - Treated small Scotch broom populations on June 27<sup>th</sup> on gravel bars with the help of volunteers (shared picture).
    - Shared map of weed populations treated on site.
  - Brad – Tour of Half Moon Bend restoration work on 9/25 is fully booked.
- MMT Grant Extension
  - Crystal – We have an approved 3 month grant extension through April 2013.
    - This allows for an extension of grant coordination and contract work
    - Overview of the revised budget highlighting major changes:
      - \$12,000 moved to Project Coordination from other categories
      - \$3,000 moved to training
  - Kendra – Where are we on our current surveyed acreage compared to what we first predicted?
    - Crystal – We predicted that we would survey about 3,000-3,400 acres and ended up surveying 2,500 ac. This is due to the fact that we did not get permission to survey the

International Paper parcel in Albany (~300 ac) and because we did not survey ag. fields. We surveyed mostly all other parcels except for a few small, privately owned properties where permission was not granted.

### Stakeholder Meeting

- Set a date
  - December 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>; second meeting potentially in early Jan.
- Brainstorm topics
  - We have an agreement in place with Brian Wilson of AlseaGeo to create maps for this meeting.
    - There will be at least three maps; one for priority invasives, one for EDRR species and one for high quality habitats
  - Kendra – The meeting should be planned accordingly for people who attend.
    - Maybe break it up so that some people get information at the beginning and others stay for planning.
    - Consider how to engage people to set priorities.
    - Who is coming and what will their roles in planning be?
  - Bud – Thinks that one meeting will be too long, and we should consider two meetings (most agree).
  - Peter – We need to do more research on the significant weeds that we found and their rate of spread. We should be prepared to present this information at the meeting.
    - It is important to prioritize the species we will discuss.
    - Should discuss the “outcome of inaction” (i.e. impacts and why we should care about them)
  - Brad – For the meeting we should spend the morning discussing data and findings, and then break out into land management groups to discuss prioritization of sites.
    - Narrow down planning to local stakeholders
    - Engagement from participants in meeting can come from them giving the group structured observations
  - Peter – We need a draft agenda for the meeting to be distributed to the steering committee, and then

we can complete the invite letter based on agenda items.

- Holly & Peter – We should have a facilitator for this meeting; Crystal will look into hiring Lisa DeBruyckere again.
- Brad – If we have two separate meetings, one day should be for connection and information. The second meeting should have more planning, priority setting and details.
- Crystal – Concerned about letting too much time elapse between the two meetings.
- Scott & Holly – We should schedule a second meeting no more than a month later for a smaller, more local group.
- Crystal – Will get started on an agenda immediately
- Peter – It will depend on how participatory to audience is in the first meeting, on whether we will need a facilitator for the second meeting.
- Holly – It depends what we want to get out of the first group, but believes that a facilitator would be useful in both meetings (most agree).
- Crystal & Holly– Thinks that it is important for the meeting to be participatory. Does not want to just talk at people, but wants to give them a chance to share their ideas and experience.
- Kendra – We should use Survey Monkey to ask key questions of invitees prior to the meeting. This way, those who cannot attend can still participate. These questions can act as primers for meeting topics.
  - Example questions:
    - What section of the river do you work on?
    - What do you perceive as the main issues on the Willamette River?
- Holly – We can reserve the Children’s Farm Home north of Corvallis on Hwy 20 for our venue.
  - It sits up to 100 people and has a restaurant and catering capabilities.
- Review list of invitees
  - Need to add invitees:
    - ODOT, OWEB, Contractors, ODA, OSU Extension, Linn County, NRCS, ODFW, Tribes, Marys WC, Friends of Buford Park and Nature Conservancy
- Letter of invite

- All – Looks good, but needs a little work. The agenda and questions can help inform the letter.
- Crystal – Will finish letter and distribute to steering committee and stakeholders. Please send me your feedback soon.
- Priority/Action Plan
  - Will know more about this, as we gain insight and feedback from stakeholders.

#### Programmatic Bylaws & Guiding Principles

- Review
  - A few minor changes were made
- Approve final draft
  - Peter – Presented motion to approve the bylaws with edits
  - Brad and Scott – Seconded motion
  - All – Motion approved

#### Meyer Memorial Trust Grant Phase II

- Timeline
  - May 2014 through May 2015
- Goals
  - Crystal – Holly and I have discussed this grant with MMT staff and have asked the steering committee on their feedback on expanding surveys. Generally, it seems that people feel like we have enough data to work with and should start focusing on prioritizing sites for restoration work. We also need to focus on building relationships with landowners and other stakeholders.
  - Peter – What are the main goals of this grant? Feels we do not need to expand at this point.
  - Crystal – Agrees that we should not expand ( at least for now).
    - We should look at where the priority invasives occur and the high quality habitat and begin setting priorities based on this, and the interest of landowners.
  - Scott – If we do decide to expand there are good reasons to go north or south. For now we should focus on getting work done on the ground, since things will change rapidly.
  - Kendra – feels like we are a year behind schedule, and need to be treating weeds now.

- We are behind the gun on showing funders that we can assess with rapid follow-up.
    - We should use MMT as match for implementation funding, and move forward as soon as possible.
    - Make note of the reduced survey time per acreage in our final report.
  - Crystal – Agree with Kendra, that we need to start moving on implementation, but we cannot lose the outreach focus or neglect partnership building in the process.
    - We are moving forward and looking into further implementation funding, and plan to apply for WSIP funds next summer.
- Potential for concurrent projects w/ additional funding
  - WSIP and OSWB new grants (Dec. and July)
  - Pulling Together grants
  - Scott – OPRD, offers up to \$10,000 for biennium with a deadline of submittal being Jan. 2014. This would not include Bowers Rock.
  - Others?

#### Action Items

- Make a list of primer questions for attendees that the steering committee can review – Crystal
- Complete invitee list and send out invites with letter – Crystal
- Edit and distribute WMC Bylaws – Crystal
- Hire Lisa DeBruyckere or another facilitator for the stakeholder meeting – Crystal
- Develop draft agenda for stakeholder meeting and distribute to steering committee for review - Crystal