

Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group Meeting Notes Thursday, June 4, 2009 10:00 a.m.

Attending: Wendy West, UCCE; Cecilia Reed, USFS; Nicole Cartwright, Tahoe RCD; Jason Brand, NTCB; Larry Hughes, Douglas County Weed District and private contractor; John Warpeha, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California - Environmental Department; Sue Donaldson, UNCE; Dan Deegan, TRCD; Robert Cummings, California Tahoe Conservancy; Kim Boyd, TRCD.

Next Meeting Dates: September 24, and December 3, 2009

1. Introductions – welcomed back Kim Boyd as Invasive Species Program Coordinator for Tahoe Resource Conservation District.

2. Outreach Updates

- TRCD will be able to dedicate staff time to terrestrial weed education via SNPLMA R8 and federal stimulus funding.
- Training for on the ground crews – 87 people were trained at June 3 workshops in the morning and afternoon. The workshops included five weed identification stations that participants rotated between and included a variety of live plant samples.
- Tahoe Keys Bull Pull – bull thistle pull event with Tahoe Keys homeowners will be organized by TRCD; probably a group pull and mini-workshop to educate landowners on how to remove bull thistle on their properties.
- Event August 14th – “A Decade of Dedication to the Detection and Control of Invasive Weeds” (replaces the July 24th Weed Tour). Nichole/TRCD will coordinate. Goals: kick off website; highlight the importance of detection efforts; audiences – agency/policymakers and general public. Elements will include a morning kick off (with computers to experiment with the website) and then a field visit. Possible site include:
 - a. TRPA or USFS then Angora Fire (demo garden and invasive samples)
 - b. TRPA then Lam Watah (USFS at Stateline)
 - c. Valhalla then Camp Richardson and/or Keva Beach

Action: Cecilia will check on Lam Watah closure; Wendy will discuss the event with Norma Santiago, EDC Supervisor and check with Susie Kocher on the prospect of doing the field portion at the Angora Fire area.

- Website – should be ready in the next two weeks. Kim and Nichole will work on producing magnets and ¼ page or bookmark size handouts promoting the new site and functions. Wendy will check with the website graphic designer to utilize the same website graphic.
- Wendy will work with Sheryl O'Brien USFS to do educational work with rec residence permittees – possibly a mailing and/or presentations at their meetings.

3. LTBWCG Priority Weed List – March 2009 updated version distributed at the meeting and electronically to the group members.
4. Detection and Treatment Planning Update
 - Follow up on Teasel infestation in mulch pile at N. Upper Truckee and Mt. Rainer (CTC property) – we need to confirm that it was treated in fall 2008 and monitor 2009. Wendy will follow up with LeeAnne Mila at the EDC Ag Department. There is concern that the mulch was used in the Angora Fire area and teasel seed may have been moved with the mulch. All partners should make any Teasel found in 2009. Larry noted that he knew of a population in Incline.
 - Lahontan agreement – Sue has prepared an amendment to the agreement and forwarded it to Bruce Warden at Lahontan Regional Water Quality Board. She will follow up.
 - Post meeting note: LeeAnne has updated the weed “pressures” map since the March meeting and Wendy will send it out electronically.
 - Wendy will represent the LTBWCG at a Truckee-area Musk Thistle meeting June 25th.
5. Aquatic Update – Nicole reports that boat inspections are going well; several boats have already had to go through decontamination.
6. Funding
 - The education work with materials suppliers (e.g. gravel pits) will probably be funded by federal stimulus funding via CDFA
 - NTCD will be applying for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant for educational work with homeowners
 - NTCD working on the details of the survey and detection work on the NV side of the lake via a NV License Plate grant.
 - Truckee River musk thistle – will work to eradicate musk thistle via federal stimulus funding per Sue
7. US Forest Service EA Process Update – Cheryl (per her email update) is working on getting the Project Initiation Letter signed; per Cecelia, EA is still on target for a February 2010 decision.