

Minutes of the IWM Committee Conf. Call Oct. 14 2008

The call convened shortly after 10:00AM. In attendance were:

Eric Hanson  
Joe Weigand  
Kim Goodwin  
Dave Burch  
Tonda Moon  
Kenny Keever

The first item of business was to designate a Vice Chair for the committee. Eric Hanson volunteered and was unanimously accepted as the IWM Committee Vice Chair.

The next item was to review the assignments and ask questions to help the chair put together a report for the Nov 18-19<sup>th</sup> MWCA Board Meeting.

-Tonda Moon gave will be putting together a grant proposal for the NWTF to provide incentives for producers to take part in the NWSFF program by providing them the markers.

- Jerry Marks, who is heading up the research portion of the committee, sent an email to update committee members on his assignments responsibilities.

- Kim Goodwin asked Dave Burch for clarification and information on the following topics related to the action items in the MT Weed Plan:

- New Invader Task Forces:

- MDA needs to initiate these task forces and those affected parties interested in management take leadership and make them productive. Annual reports should be submitted and presented at the MWCA conference in a "task force" strand.

- There are about 7 task forces in place. Some of the task forces have action plans or have plans in the works. Most, however, simply have minutes on file at the county weed district. It is unclear which species do and do not have formalized plans.

- There isn't adequate funding for many of these groups, however, several are funded through the NWTF. Formalized action plans may guide access to additional funding.

- Most are not staffed w/ a full time coordinator, but are usually coordinated by a county WD who may have someone hired on to help in that arena.

- The 7.7 million dollar recommendation in the MT Weed Plan for EDRR is an estimate based on what professionals in the state say they think they would need.

- County weed plans are required by MDA every 2 years and are required to have their budget information in the plan. There is a format and the applicable action item is attained. (pp 5-4 MT Weed plan)

- The publication of state authorized weed alerts and weed management monitoring guidelines may be led by Jane Mangold.
  
- Eric Hanson identified the vacancy of Justun Juelfs w/ MDOT and needing to touch base w/ him or approach his replacement, Mike Miller, to take his place. It was suggested that Justun would potentially still be involved, but the matter should be sorted out. Eric volunteered to follow up on this item.
- Joe Weigand stated that he has been working with Monica Pokorny on the Restoration component but not much headway has been made. He was going to see if he can track down her new contact information at her new place of employment.
  
- Kenny Keever stated that the inventory, mapping and evaluation component hasn't gone any further. He was waiting on Linda Vance and Celestine Duncan as they were working on a potential project that would address many of the relevant action items. There was discussion on what would be needed and that both the Heritage Program and CIPM would be potential housing entities for a statewide repository. Kenny will follow up with Celestine and Linda to see where they are at. Dave Burch noted that if they were looking for NWTF dollars, the deadline was Dec. 1. He also suggested that maybe a 1 – 2 day summit may be held to hash this out.
  
- MSU has a new Ext. Weeds Specialist (Jane Mangold) and there are relevant items in the weed plan that would fit that position. Dave Burch had discussed the development of extension bulletins for the 5 new noxious weeds and updating some of the other bulletins w/ Dr. Mangold last week at coordinators training. They are also looking at new invader "alerts" with revamping of the INVADERS Database as part of EDRR. A standard use protocol would need to be developed and implemented. Kim Goodwin also added that a Mont Guide or flyer that outlined how to monitor infestations/treatments would be a good project for extension as well.

Assignments:

The committee members will have their assignments to Kenny by 10/31 for compilation. Kenny will have the draft compilation/committee report back out to the committee by 11/7 for review. Any comments or changes will be submitted back to Kenny by 11/14. Kenny will send the final report for review on 10/17. Any last minute changes need to be sent that day so that Kenny can have a finished report for the MWCA Board Meeting on 10/18.