

# Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group

## Steering Committee Meeting Notes

### March 8, 2007

USFS Tahoe Basin Management Unit South Lake Tahoe, CA

Attending: Sue Donaldson, UNCE; Jenny Francis, Invasive Weeds Coordinator/TRCD; Nicole Cartwright, Americorps/TRCD; Alyssa Shook, Americorps/TRCD; Nancy Lozano, CA State Parks; Rita Whitney, TRPA; Carl Young, League to Save Lake Tahoe; Jason Brand, NTCD; Jane Schmidt, NRCS; Jerry Owens, NRCS; Keith Kohler, Placer County Ag Dept.; Valerie Van Way, CA State Lands Commission; LeeAnne Mila, El Dorado County Ag Dept.; Wendy West, UCCE; Cecilia Reed, USFS-LTBMU

#### Next Meeting

June 7, 2007

**Introductions** – Nicole Cartwright and Alyssa Shook, Americorps members, began serving in January with TRCD's Invasive Weed Program.

**Grants-** Jane Schmidt updated on SNPLMA Rd 7. **ACTION:** The group will provide feedback to Jane or Jenny on the Rd 7 proposals by the end of March. Jane also updated the group on the status of the invasive species proposals submitted for Rd 8. Currently, the Aquatic Invasive Weed and the Warm Water Invasive Fish proposals are under reconsideration. **ACTION:** Carl Young will speak with Rochelle Nason and report back to Jenny Francis to determine what if anything the group can do as a next step to ensure that an aquatic invasive weed project is funded.

Jason Brand from NTCD updated the group on the NV License Plate grant. Currently, they are still awaiting reimbursement for control work due to unapproved match documentation by El Dorado/Placer counties Department of Ag. **ACTION:** Sue Donaldson suggested contacting higher ups to help facilitate this process. Jason also stated that they have submitted for another funding round through this grant but are unsure if they would accept these dollars if awarded due to recent difficulties.

**Mapping Protocol & Process-** Sue Donaldson discussed the groups existing monitoring/mapping protocol. **ACTION:** She stated that she will resend this out to the group as a whole. She also suggested that the group as a whole add to their existing data forms information on whether a site is a new or historic location. Jenny Francis also told the group how the TRCD and NTCD are adapting the existing forms and putting them on their access databases which are tied to parcel, updated NRCS soil data, depth to water table, and native vegetation community information. **ACTION:** At the next meeting Jenny and Leann will share with the group their data bases.

The group discussed training needs. Agency weed identification and control trainings are being planned by Wendy West and Jenny Francis. They are tentatively set for mid May. **ACTION:** Wendy will email the group the dates as soon as they are confirmed. Leann Mila is available for herbicide training if needed. **ACTION:** Colleen will also be performing a GPS training for the group prior to the next meeting (dates to be announced). Jason Brand will be holding

professional trainings in Oct. The aquatic group will be holding trainings for Divers and boat inspectors.

**Draft threshold-** Sue Donaldson passed around the draft thresholds. She has received and revised language based on comments from Lars Anderson on incorporating aquatic language with terrestrial. Rita Whitney told the group that Ilene, veg. expert for TRPA, will be returning and can review in greater detail for finalization prior to the next group meeting. Sue also asked the group about their comfort in the 25% reduction value in terrestrials and 10% reduction value in aquatics. Everyone thought being conservative was best. **ACTION:** Rita will email Sue turbidity language to incorporate. The group also talked about boat wash stations briefly and suggested expansion of the surveying done of Fallen Leaf Lake's boat wash to include the public at other marinas lake wide.

**Aquatic Report-** Jenny Francis updated the group on the group's activity during this quarter. The group is meeting quarterly and is actively planning an Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop, scheduled for May 2, 3. She also expressed the group's desire to become more inclusive and include all aquatic invasive species. The idea would be that certain members of this aquatic invasive species group would interface with the LTBWCG. The group thought this seemed appropriate. The aquatic invasive species group will utilize the LTBWCG's existing MOU until 2008 and then adapt it as needed. The education/outreach sub-committee also mentioned that the aquatic invasive species group could merge reporting forms with those of weed sightings once phase two of the website is underway.

**Action Plan-**Sue Donaldson and Wendy West reviewed the draft Action Plan with the group. Comments to add a prevention section and more updated information on aquatics was requested by the group. **ACTION:** Sue will incorporate needed changes and send out to the group.

**Outreach subcommittee report** – The committee shared the existing draft plan with the group. The also shared the Annual Report and discussed means for distribution. **ACTION:** Rita will get Jenny info on when an appropriate time to present to the TRPA governing board would be. The group is also developing a website for the group. This will be initially housed at TRCD. **ACTION:** Jenny will present to the group the website at the next meeting. Seasonal job openings are also available through the FS for more information contact Cecilla Reed. Master Gardners will be collecting samples this field season that can later be used by the varying agencies as teaching and identification tools. Jenny Francis will be presenting at the Contractor's Workshop on April 27<sup>th</sup>. **ACTION:** Sue will ask MJ if she is available to assist and Wendy will help Jenny with content. Wendy and Jenny are also planning a Weed tour in July for California Weed Week. **ACTION:** Leann will ask Carrie to see if she can assist. **ACTION:** Wendy will let group know details so that they may attend and assist with running stations. Leann is attempting to get Yellow toadflax listed as an A rated species in California. **ACTION:** Sue will reinvestigate the use of Milestone and listing more species on the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board agreement. **ACTION:** Jenny will talk to Craig Witt regarding disposal/composting of EWM. **ACTION:** TRCD staff will monitor behind Meeks for any revegetation work need this Fall and conduct reseeding if needed. They will coordinate with Leann on spraying so that maximum success will be achieved.