

Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

December 6, 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; Jason Brand, NTCB; Jerry Owens, NRCS; Wendy West, UCCE; Joy Barney and Cecilia Reed, USFS-LTBMU, Adam Lewandowski and Robert Cummings, CTC; Larry Hughes, Douglas County Weed District and Private Applicator, LeeAnne Mila and Jessie Honeycutt, El Dorado County Ag; John Warpeha Washoe Tribe – Environmental Department; Steve Siegel, Kleinfelder.

Next Meeting

March 6th, 2007 (note post meeting change to March 20, 2007)

10am-1pm LTBWCG

2pm-5pm Aquatic Invasive Species working group

MOU update:

- Sue sent out the MOU for review. 4-5 entities responded with suggestions. FS will add in a custom/individual change to their signature page.
- Wendy made sure that the MOU clearly states that we work with both aquatics and terrestrial weeds in the Tahoe Basin; just had to make a few word changes to make this feasible.
- There will be two separate MOU's, one for LTBWCG and one for AIS working group. The AIS working group will use the same template as the weed groups, just with a few minor changes to make it comprehensive for all aquatic species and so that it states LTBWCG and AIS working group will work together on some projects/issues.

ACTION: Wendy and Jenny will work on the MOU together. Wendy will contact other organizations that have not yet signed and some aquatic folks as well. Wendy will place parties known to sign on the front page (marked "partial list") in the document and add an attachment with a list of all signators.

Draft LTBWCG Wish List Fall 2007:

- Went over Draft LTBWCG Wish List for Fall 2007, and prioritized based on group votes. Everyone voted for their top 5-10 items.
 - **RESULTS (in order, based on # of votes): Survey and detection - basin wide including Angora Fire area; Basin wide control work, Snapdragon/toadflax and broom plant swaps; RCD staffing for private property assistance; Landscaper training and outreach materials translated into Spanish; Proactive approach to fire response/prevention, weed warrior agency trainings**

ACTION: Jenny will write up the SNPLMA Round 8 proposal and send out for review by the group.

Priority Weed List:

- Definitions for Group 1 and 2 were added for clarification.
- A few grammar changes will be made and add symbols to group one for the three categories (e.g. not currently found in Lake Tahoe Basin, documented in areas adjacent to the basin and may move into the area, are small, eradicable populations).
- Major changes: Moving Curlyleaf pondweed and Klamathweed to group two. Taking Purple starthistle off the list. Changing Hoary cress to all *Cardaria* species.
- Cheatgrass, mullein, and others were discussed as possible additions. Ultimately group decided to leave them all off this document, but will add them to a separate document for homeowner education.

ACTION: Will work on homeowner tip sheet for weeds that they can control but are not on out Priority Weed List (e.g. cheat grass, mullein, and salsify).

Angora Fire Integrated Weed Management Plan:

- **Needs:**
 - Weed map binders for those working in the area (CTC, FS, TRCD), LeeAnne at EDC Ag Dept. will be available for all before the next field season;
 - Funding for survey and delimitation and who would be doing them;
 - Long term, how to work proactive plan with OES, Office of Emergency Services.
- CTC and Army Corps have funding for survey and delimitation, and would like to help out.
- Comprehensive info about natural resource issues in the fire area: Susie Kocher, TRCD, Fire safe council, and others are putting together outreach materials and a community workshop to cover these issues (Revegetation, defensible space, BMP's, weeds, and water conservation) which will be available to homeowners this spring. This subcommittee is also putting together a landscaper workshop that will cover similar topics.
- Will highlight what we all agencies and organizations are doing for the fire in the LTBWCG annual report.

ACTION: LeeAnne will work on getting map books together for upcoming field season. CTC, LeeAnne and TRCD will talk after the meeting about the details of survey funding.

Survey and Mapping results 2007:

- Data still coming in, preliminary data and maps only for El Do and Placer. Trying to get data together before the December meeting was a challenge for all, later date in future years for final maps, stats and reports would be helpful.

2007 Annual Report:

- Will have similar format to last years annual report. This year's report will highlight stats, prevention, fire monitoring, map of sites, and clip and dip work by State parks.

ACTION: Jenny will be compiling the data and will be done early January.

Early Detection and Rapid Response—Internal Flow Chart:

- We need a committee of folks willing to work on this. For each species of concern, the chart should show what to do when you find it, according to phenology, location, etc.

ACTION: Leeanne and Jessie will work on this (internal document only). Wendy, Leeanne and Jenny will review this by Jan 15 and then out to the group.

Update and Planning 2008:

Aquatic Invasive Species Group:

- A few group members went to the 100th Meridian meeting in Las Vegas. In Lake Mead, the quagga mussels are showing 6 breeding cycles instead of one cycle seen previously in other habitats. New boat inspection training DVDs coming out soon. Interviews for new USFWS AIS coordinator will be on January 8th. The groups is working on monitoring protocols (will send that out to the group). Will be adapting LTBWCG MOU to form an AIS MOU. Dogs that sniff out quagga and zebra mussel are now being used in the U.S. CA and NV has new legislation about moving nuisance species across borders, check out the 100th meridian website for update.

Yellow toadflax:

- Ag Department is taking the lead on getting this species listed as a noxious weed on the CDFG list; they would like support from the LTBWCG. Group agreed to sign a letter of support.

Outreach/training planning:

- Field course control and weed ID training with CAL-IPC will be held either May 28th and 29th or the first weed of June. There will be a fee for the control portion of the training but not for the weed ID portion.
- Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) asked for a one page summary of current efforts your agency is doing with education and outreach, email to Jeff Cowen by **DECEMBER 19th**.
- March 11-12 8:30-12:30, Weed Warrior Training (will cover some Tahoe weeds).

Invasive Weed Annual Meeting-Executive Level:

- Wendy is going to move forward with the planning for the meeting. Will shoot for late February or early March. Wendy will contact the Tahoe Interagency Executives (TIE) to try and get on the agenda.
- CAL-IPC has done a very baseline mapping plan, it shows where weeds are increasing, decreasing or staying the same, they now want to do it to all the weeds on the CAL-IPC list.

2008 Meeting Dates:

Mapping plus final report meeting January 31st, 10:00 a.m. LTBMU Conference Room

Quarterly Dates: March 6th, June 5th, September 25th, December 4th 10 a.m.-1:00pm @
USFS Tahoe Basin Management Unit South Lake Tahoe, CA

Other Business:

- Cecilia asked if there any concerns or thoughts within this group with proposal of USFS using chemical control.

ACTION: Cecilia will send out an email to the group for comments on the proposal