

**YAMPA RIVER LEAFY SPURGE PROJECT
MEETING
May 10, 2018
1:00pm at the Carpenter Ranch**

Proposed Agenda

1. Introductions (5 minutes) Participants on Conference Call (303-869-9193): Lara Duran, CDA Noxious Weed Specialist and John Kaltenback, CDA Bio-control
2. Review Agenda (5 minutes)
3. CDA Weed Fund Update and Plans: Lara (5 minutes)
4. Discussion regarding YRLSP Bio-control Needs and Protocols: John, Tamara, and Jessica (5 minutes)
5. Update on Proposed Request for Funds from the YWGRT/CWCB Water Supply Funds: Tamara (60 minutes)
 - a. Draft Scope of Work
 - b. CWCB Grant Application for Water Supply Reserve Funds
 - c. Issue of Tuition Funding and other: Draft Budget
Possibility of Routt County and Moffat County funding Tuition
 - d. Presentation to YWGRT
 - e. Contact YWGRT Members
 - f. Other Matching Funds and In-Kind Matches
Grant application (Due to YWGRT Application Committee June 12th)
 - g. Sub-Committee to assist Tamara with Application and Approval for YRLSP
 - h. Next steps
6. 2018 Leafy Spurge Mapping: (Pete) (10 minutes)
 - a. Protocols
 - b. Areas of mapping
 - c. Need for landowner permissions
 - c. Volunteers
7. Update on the 2018 CDA Grant: Ben (10 minutes)
 - a. Recommendations for Draft Final Statement of Work
 - b. Objectives for 2018
8. Discussion regarding schedule for completion of 2017 CDA Weed Fund Grant Measurable Objectives: Jessica) (10 minutes)
 - a. Work necessary to complete 2017 CDA Grant

- b. 3rd Quarter Report due for Jan, Feb, and March/Possible CDA Extension
- c. 4th Quarter and Final Report for April, May, and June

9. Organizing for 2018 Show Me Float: (John) (15 minutes)

- a. Date, Itinerary, and Equipment Needs
- b. Invitation for Participants
- c. Organizing Committee

10. Updates: (5 minutes):

- a. Payment to Anne Sullivan/Cody Perry from the FOY/YRLSP Donation Account for website(Ben)
- b. Signed Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement with Friends of the Yampa (Ben and Cody)
- c. Little Yampa Canyon Survey Trip (Tamara)
- d. Dinosaur National Monument Leafy Spurge Pulling Trip (Tamara)

11. Other Items: (5 minutes)

- a. Update of the Jodi Elam Project: Todd
- b. Update on HPP Grant Application: Kris
- c. Report on Targeted Conservation Projects: Kendall
- d. Contact John Kaltenback for beetle releases for 2018

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, July 12th at 1:00pm

Adjourn (3:00)

Meeting Packet:

1. Revised Agenda
2. Draft Scope of Work for YWGRT/CWCB Request (Potentially to be available at meeting)
3. YWGRT Members
4. Draft 2018 CDA Weed Fund Grant Statement of Work
5. 2017 CDA Weed Fund Grant Statement of Work

YAMPA RIVER LEAFY SPURGE PROJECT

May 10, 2018 1:00pm
Carpenter Ranch
Draft Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Executive Committee Present

Jessica Counts	MC Weed and Pest
Barry Castagnasso	Routt County Landowner
Tamara Naumann	MC Citizen
Ben Beall	RC Citizen
John Husband	Northwest CO Citizen
Kris Middendorf	Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Advisory Committee

Pete Williams	MC Citizen (Mapping)
Geoff Blakeslee	The Nature Conservancy
Anne Doughty	RC Citizen (Website Administrator)

Guest

Lara Duran	CDA, Noxious Weed Specialist
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Ben Beall opened the meeting at 1:00pm. Ben asked everyone to introduce themselves so that Lara Duran who was on the phone would know who was present.

Ben asked if there were any additions for the agenda. Ben explained that he had changed the agenda to accommodate Lara and John Kaltenback, CDA Bio-control. He placed agenda items so that Lara and John would not have to stay on the phone. John couldn't make it and Lara said that she would listen in. Ben asked Lara to participate at any time.

Meeting Discussions:

First Discussion: CDA Weed Fund Update and Plans

Lara said that she has plans to come up to Northwest Colorado and hold a workshop on mapping. The YRLSP had asked for CDA assistance with EDDS mapping requirements in their 2018 CDA Weed Fund Grant.

Tamara Naumann asked what would be the audience. Jessica Counts thought that it would be a good idea to coordinate the Map It Fast mapping applications that Moffat

County and Routt County use. Jessica pointed that there had been problems in the past with the required field forms in the EDDs system. Jessica asked Lara what would be the time frame for the workshop.

Lara said that she was going to come up at sometime because she had other requests for assistance. Jessica thought it would be important to communicate with Greg Brown to see if the Routt County Weed Program would want to participate in the workshop.

Task 1: Jessica will get in touch with Greg to explain Lara's willing to give a mapping workshop on the EDDS mapping system which CDA uses.

Second Discussion: Bio-control Needs

Tamara said that she had talked to John Kaltenback regarding the YRSLP bio-control past efforts and future needs. She also had met with Tyler Jacox regarding the beetle releases on the YRSWA.

John had voiced his dismay at the spraying of one of the beetle release sites on the YRLSP by a Routt County contractor.

Everyone agreed that: 1. There needs to be a map with all release sites; 2. There needs to be a monitoring program set up with protocols, maybe using volunteers with an "Adopt a Bug Patch"; and 3. There is a need to increase the awareness in the community of bio-control treatments for leafy spurge.

John had told Tamara that he is aware of a more successful bio-control project near Meeker.

Task 2: Tamara to talk again with John to plan for future bio-control releases this summer and to get his take on a public meeting to discuss beetles and bio-control.

Task 3: Barry Castagnasso to assist in finding appropriate beetle release sites.

Task 4: Barry to talk to Gary Brannon past MC Weed and Pest Manager to see if he knows where there were beetle release sites.

Third Discussion: Update on Proposed Request for Funds from the YWGRT/CWCB Water Supply Funds

Tamara presented a draft YRLSP logo. The group approved the logo by consensus.

Tamara updated the group on her work since the March meeting on the request for research funds from CWCB. She is working on a scope of work with Dan Tiekela, Professor from the University of WY. She explained that there had been an issue with CWCB funding graduate student tuition. The draft plan has two graduate students working during 2 yrs for the 3 year plan period. This issue may have been solved through the possibility of Routt and Moffat Counties funding one-half of the tuition and the Univ of WY funding the other half.

Geoff Blakeslee recommended making sure that as many of the 8 goals in the YWGRT BIP are included in the grant application as possible.

Ben wanted to make sure that the goals of the Colorado Water Plan are addressed.

Tamara explained that the research would be focused on two areas: 1. Develop a Water Shed Scale Management Framework Through Mapping and Predictive Modeling and 2. Identify Best Management Practices for Reducing Leafy Spurge Seed Production in Four Specific Riparian Habitat Types in the Yampa Valley. She presented the group with a partial draft budget and a draft research timeline.

The research plan will include targeted grazing. The management of goats or sheep could be difficult due to detailed fencing requirements. Prof Tiekela has said that he could bring sheep down from WY but this would be a lot more expensive than if we could find a local herd. Also, there is a need to identify specific parcels for the research. Tamara was pleased that Prof Tiekela has committed to participated in the Show Me Float where he would be able to get a better understanding of the geographic/environmental issues.

Tamara will continue to work with Prof Tiekela and will have a draft CWCB application completed by June 1st for review. The application will need to be presented to the YWGRT Application Committee by June 12th.

The group discussed how to increase the support on the YWGRT for the YRLSP request for funds. Ben asked everyone to look at the YWGRT members list that was included in the meeting packet. The group then went around and volunteered to contact specific members of the YWGRT.

Lara offered to write a letter of support for the request for funds from the YWGRT/CWCB.

Task 5: Tamara to continue to work with Prof Tiekela to refine the project Scope of Work and complete a draft CWCB application for CWCB Water Supply Reserve Funds by June 1st with a completion date of June 10th.

Task 6: Jessica and Greg will talk with their Boards of County Commissioners to see if funds can be placed in the 2019 budget to pay for one-half of the tuition of the grad students.

Task 7: Tyler to investigate the possibility of using local sheep or goats for targeted grazing.

Task 8: Ben to put together the YWGRT member's sheet with those who had volunteered to contact its members. SEE ATTACHED SHEET THAT WAS EMAILED OUT TO THE WORKING GROUP LAST WEEK.

Task 9: Geoff to contact April the YWGRT secretary to make sure that we are on the YWGRT agenda for their July meeting.

Task 10: Ben to touch base with Patrick Stanko to bring him up to speed regarding the YRLSP and our request for funds from the YWGRT/CWCB.

Task 11: Jessica and Tamara to work together on the short 10 minute presentation with Power Point for the YWGRT. Jessica will give the presentation or the YRLSP.

Fourth Discussion: Leafy Spurge Mapping

Pete Williams described to the group how he had put together four specific Yampa River reach maps using satellite photography; the counties parcel maps, and incorporating river mile data.

He explained that he and Ben were prepared with their new tablets using the Map It Fast mapping application to do a test run on Little Yampa Canyon.

However there is at least a couple missing pieces to the mapping effort: 1. The Strider data entry forms to be used to describe the various infestations; and 2. Landowner access permission.

The Strider form for Map It Fast is needed to coordinate with the information that CDA requires when mapping noxious weeds. If there isn't permission for access it may be necessary to map from rafts which would be less than perfect.

Ben volunteered to map the river from Dorsey Beach in the YRSWA to Lowdy Simpson Park.

Barry suggested that there is a need because there is leafy spurge on the river to start mapping from the Moon Place near the Hayden's water treatment plant.

Task 12: Jessica to work on creating the Strider Form and coordinate with Pete.

Task 13: Barry and Jessica to obtain as many landowner access permissions as possible so that the mapping can start as soon as the leafy spurge false bloom.

Fifth Discussion: Recommendations for the 2018 CDA Weed Fund Grant Statement of Work

Ben explained that Greg could not be at the meeting due to an urgent medical issue. Greg had said that he and Lara had tried to work on the SOW but so far had not been able to find the time. However he had talked to Greg and Greg would like the group to make a recommendation regarding the SOW.

Ben presented a draft SOW that Lara had sent to Greg on it were various changes that Ben and Greg had discussed. The main concerns were: 1. There were funds in State Fiscal Year which ends June 30th that probably could not be spent; 2. The draft budget columns did not add up; 3. There were no funds for Routt County to treat a new 100 +/- acres; for the Private Property Coordinator (\$1,000) and for a video of LYC (\$3,500) as requested in the 2018 CDA Grant Application.

However, the total draft SOW budget added up to a \$16,000 grant instead of the requested \$26,000. If the changes are accepted with the appropriate Fiscal Year then everything except the treatment for the new 100 +/- acres (\$10,000) which was in the original request would be funded.

Ben pointed out that there was included in the draft budget submitted by Lara the \$10,000 requested for the second treatment by Moffat County for the treatment in TeePee Draw.

The group reviewed the suggested changes to the SOW and by consensus recommended that they be included in the Final SOW.

Task 14: Ben to present the 2018 SOW budget recommendations to Greg for his discussions with Lara.

Sixth Discussion: Completion of the 2017 CDA Weed Fund Grant 3rd Quarter Report

Ben explained that it had come to his attention that the YRLSP was late in submitting the required 3rd Quarter Report of expenditures and matches ending March 30th for the 2017 CDA Weed Fund Grant. There hadn't been any expenditures that needed reimbursement. It was only about fulfilling our responsibilities contained in the 2017 Statement of Work.

Ben had been in contact with Lynn Haskins, Colorado First Conservation District, and the fiscal contractor for the YRLSP grant. She had requested an extension.

Task 15: Ben to touch base with Lynn and Greg to work to complete the 3rd Quarter Report.

Seventh Discussion: 2018 Show Me Float

John Husband passed out a list of invitees for the 4th Annual Show Me Float. John said that he had not had many responses and that this list would not be the final list. He is not worried about participants at this time. We should have plenty of time to work out the logistics.

He suggested that everyone send him names of possible invitees that they felt should be invited for the trip. He had not sent invitation to all the members of the Working Group. If they would like to participate they should contact John.

The trip is scheduled for Friday June 22nd leaving Dorsey Beach put-in at 9:30 and ending with a barbeque at Lowdy Simpson.

John thought that we would be lacking rafts for the float. If anyone has a raft they should let John know. He has been in touch with the Parrotheads to help out again this year.

Task 16: Working Group Members if they have access to a raft and would like to participate should contact John.

Eighth Discussion: Updates

1. Ben, Tamara, Pete, and John floated Little Yampa Canyon to the Maybell Bridge the 25 and 26th of April to survey that reach of the Yampa for mapping later this summer when the leafy spurge is in false bloom and is visible from the river.

2. Tamara has organized a 4 raft trip in Dinosaur National Monument with volunteers and NPS staff to pull leafy spurge to reduce seed flow in the Yampa for May 13th to May 18th. John, Ben and Pete will participate.

3. Jodi Elam has completed her Master's Thesis and is presenting it to her review board. Todd Hagenbuch has received her thesis and it can be shared with all. Jodi sent out 146 unique questionnaires and received 56 responses. In her questionnaire she acknowledged the YRLSP as a mentor and the YRLSP is highlighted in her thesis.

Next Meeting: July 12th at 1:00pm at the Carpenter Ranch

Adjourned: 3:15pm