



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT NORTHEAST INVASIVE PLANT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, December 8, 2009

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Regional District Offices, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Tim Caton, Electoral Area 'E' Director, Meeting Chair
 Mike McConnell, PR Regional Cattlemen's Association
 Art Seidl, PR Regional Cattlemen's Association
 Mike Deliman, President, Spectrum Resource Group Inc., 10:15 am
 Andrew Shwetz, Sunrise Environmental Ltd.
 Manuel Mariotto, IPM Unit, Ministry of Environment
 Marilyn Belak, Timberline Trail and Nature Club
 Bob Drinkwater, Ministry of Forests and Range, Prince George
 Dennis Meier, Invasive Plant Contractor - Regional District
 Stephanie Haight, Ministry of Forests and Range, Dawson Creek
 Christy Strocel, Louisiana Pacific Canada Ltd.
 Troy Gould, District of Taylor
 Mohammed Farah, Oil and Gas Commission, Fort St. John, 10:15 am
 Denise McLean, Chair, Northwest Invasive Plant Council
 Ron and Verena Reznicek, PR Organic Producers Association, 1:20 pm
 Shannon Anderson, General Manager of Environmental Services
 Suzanne Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

Via Teleconference

Linda Wilson, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
 Sonja Leverkus, Ministry of Forests and Range, Fort Nelson
 Steve Guterham, Fort Simpson, Northwest Territories
 Daryl Nolan, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
 Raylene Otto, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
 Carolyn Astley, Hemmera - Environmental Service Consultant
 Charlie Palmer, Hemmera - Environmental Service Consultant

1) Call to Order Director Caton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

2) Adoption of the Agenda **MOVED** by Denis Meier, **SECONDED** by Bob Drinkwater, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee Agenda for the December 8, 2009 meeting including New Business and additional items for the agenda, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

Minutes

M-1 Northeast Invasive Plant Committee Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2009
 M-2 Northeast Invasive Plant Management Area Steering Committee Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2009
 M-3 Borders North Initiative Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2009.

January 14, 2010

Adoption of the Agenda (continued)

2) Adoption of the Agenda

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Correspondence

- C-1 August 20, 2009 email from the Fort Nelson Invasive Plant Management Area Steering Committee regarding:
 - a) North American Weed Free Forage Program; and
 - b) Native Plant Society
- C-2 November 12, 2009 email from Bob Drinkwater, Ministry of Forests and Range regarding request to the Minister of Environment to review and consider an amendment to regulation 74 to include aminopyralid.
- C-3 November 23, 2009 email from Sonja Leverkus, Ministry of Forests and Range regarding “what to do with them after we pick them?”
- C-4 November 3, 2009 email from Marilyn Belak, Timberline Trail and Nature Club regarding Peace River Parkland mixture.

Reports:

- R-1 November 20, 2009 Chair’s report from the Fort Nelson Invasive Plant Management Area Steering Committee - Sonja Leverkus
- R-2 Report on the Pine Pass, North and South Peace Invasive Plant Management Areas - Stephanie Haight
- R-3 Report on the Ministry of Forests and Range 2009 Invasive Plant Program - Stephanie Haight
- R-4 Report on the new multi agency Program - Bob Drinkwater
- R-5 Report on the 2009 Pest Management Program - Sunrise Environmental Inc.
- R-6 Report on the 2009 Pine Pass IPMA Program - Spectrum Resource Group Inc.
- R-7 Agency reports on the 2009 Invasive Plant Program.

New Business:

- NB-1 Cosmetic Herbicides
- NB-2 Outreach and Education Program

Adjournment:

MINUTES:

3) M-1
 NEIPC Meeting
 Minutes of
 April 28, 2009

MOVED by Karen Goodings, SECONDED by Marilyn Belak, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2008 be adopted.

CARRIED.

4) M-2
 NEIPM Area
 Steering Cmte. Mtg.
 Min. of Nov. 19, 2009

MOVED by Marilyn Belak, SECONDED by Dennis Meier, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Management Area Steering Committee Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2009 be received.

CARRIED.

5) M-3
 Borders North
 Mtg. Min. of
 Oct 2, 2009.

MOVED by Troy Gould, SECONDED by Sonja Leverkus, that the Borders North Initiative Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2009 be received.

CARRIED.

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BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

6) M-1, page 3 Concern was expressed that there is no concentrated effort being taking in steam cleaning of rig mats.

MOVED by Art Seidl, SECONDED by Bob Drinkwater, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to Mr. Dan Hanson, Oil and Gas Commission, requesting clarification on the procedure for removal of soils from rig mats and suggest that rig mats be kept within a specified area in an attempt reduce the import of invasive plant seeds from Alberta and other areas.

CARRIED.

7) M-1, page 3
Oil and Gas
Activities Act

Members were advised that the sub-committee - Sonja Leverkus, Art Seidl, and Jill Copes participated in a teleconference call with Linda Wilson, Manager, Invasive Plant Management Program regarding the draft Oil and Gas Activities Act. Draft comments were compiled.

A second draft of the Act is open for public review/consultation on the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources web site. Members will be checking the second draft to determine if their comments have been included.

8) M-2 Best
Management Practice

Ms. Haight had prepared a referral for the Quality Wind project within the Hourglass fire area. It was suggested that an invasive plant best management practice (BMP) document be developed that the Integrated Land Management Branch, Oil and Gas Commission, the Ministry of Forests and Range, etc., can hand out to tenure holders and all industries. It was suggested that this document be referred to in the Plan and Profile.

MOVED by Stephanie Haight, SECONDED by Mike Delimann, that a Sub-Committee consisting of the following members be struck to draft a Best Management Practice document for review at the Spring NEIPC meeting:

Stephanie Haight, Dennis Meier, Carolyn Astley, Mike Deliman

CARRIED.

Some items to include in the BMP - gravel pits, steam cleaning, natural re-vegetation, minimum disturbance, etc.

9) M-2 Hawkweed

MOVED by Dennis Meier, SECONDED by Manuel Mariotto, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to Linda Wilson, Manager, Invasive Plant Management Program requesting that all alien Hawkweed Species be added to the Regional List of prohibited weeds in the Weed Control Act.

CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes: (continued)

10) M-2 NWIPC appreciation
 MOVED by Marilyn Belak, SECONDED by Dennis Meier, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to the Northwest Invasive Plant Committee expressing appreciation for the work they undertook in the Pine Pass area in 2009.
 CARRIED.

11) M-2 Hawkweed Tumbler Ridge
 MOVED by Mike Deliman, SECONDED by Andrew Shwetz, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to the District of Tumbler Ridge requesting that they treat Hawkweed within their municipal boundary as fire mitigation work may result in the spread of Hawkweed into other areas.
 CARRIED.

12) M-2 PFZ's
 MOVED by Andrew Shwetz, SECONDED by Dennis Meier, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to the Honourable Barry Penner, Minister of Environment requesting the use of aminopyralid within PFZ's as per Invasive Plant Management Regulation, Section 74, with a copy to the Northwest Invasive Plant Committee.
 CARRIED.

Members were advised that the letter should include additional information as backup to the request. Contractors are on the ground, they know what chemical works in different circumstances, i.e. pulling Hawkweed makes it spread faster. Broad spectrum kills everything, give examples, i.e. helicopter pad Monkman Park. Milestone is the preferred chemical to use close to water, however Reg 74 only allows glyphosate to be used in riparian area, which kills all plant species. Milestone is an environmentally safer chemical. Contractors will be providing comments to Stephanie to document their expertise in the letter.

Marilyn Belak requested a copy of this information for City Council.

13) M-2 Pine Pass IPMA
 MOVED by Stephanie Haight, SECONDED by Mike Deliman, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that continuation of the Pine Pass Invasive Plant Management Area (IPMA) be approved.
 CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

14) C-1a) weed free forage
 Discussion ensued regarding contaminated forage being taken into weed free areas. It was suggested that a better approach needs to be undertaken to ensure all stakeholders/users use weed free forage. It was noted that Alberta has an informal weed free program. Ms. Leverkus will forward information on their program.

MOVED by Dennis Meier, SECONDED by Troy Gould, that this item be referred to the 2010 spring meeting.
 CARRIED.

Correspondence: (continued)

15) C-3
 what to do with them after we pick them?

Discussion ensued regarding the disposal of mechanically treated weeds. Currently weeds that have been hand pulled are put into garbage bags and disposed of at the nearest landfill, transfer station or burned at the West Fraser burner. It was felt that if an individual takes the time to hand pull weeds they should be encouraged and not be charged at the landfill for disposal, \$2.00. Bags could be identified with tags.

MOVED by Marilyn Belak, SECONDED by Sonja Leverkus, that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a best management policy / procedure for the disposal of hand pulled weed plants be implemented, including but not limited to:

- a) that may include the waiving of tipping fees for disposal;
- b) possible signage at disposal sites;
- c) do not recycle garden debris into a public park or natural area; and
- d) avoid composting invasive plants, as they can quickly re-establish themselves.

CARRIED.

16) Recess
 17) Reconvene

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.
 The meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

REPORTS:

18) R-1 Chairs
 report from FN
 IMPA

Ms. Leverkus briefly reviewed the 2009 Chair's report from the Fort Nelson Invasive Plant Management Area Steering Committee. Priorities for 2010 include:

1. Treatment contract
2. Partnerships and funding
3. Education and awareness
4. Projects - native seeds and plants, weed free forage, BMP's for industry and sand for fracing follow-up.
5. Finding additional funding sources

19) R-2 Pine Pass,
 North, South Peace
 IMPA

Report on the Pine Pass, North and South Peace Invasive Plant Management Areas by Stephanie Haight.

(Handout)

Treated areas included:
 Moberly and Johnson Forest Service Roads (FSR's) - Hawkweed
 Sunkunka FSR, Blind Creek FSR and Lower Burnt FSR
 Hasler FSR
 Clearwater and Silver Sands FSR's

- Issues for 2010
- activity in Sukunka
 - Johnson Creek Hawkweed infestation "bridging" the Peace River at the lower dam and entering the North Peace IPMA
 - Highway ditch control options and handpulling

Reports: (continued)

- 20) R-3 MoFR Program (handout) Mr. Drinkwater briefly updated members on the status of the 2009 Ministry of Forests and Range Invasive Plant program.
- Issues for 2010
- Hawkweed containment, very challenging as the more survey work that is done the more sites are found. Hawkweeds are moving in quickly and it will be an effort to maintain containment.
 - Dalmation Toadflax - NEIPC Plan says all sites will be managed - there is an issue with the large site found this year at the Fort St. John Lookout. Bio control agents were released in the center of this large infestation on very difficult terrain while strategies to eliminate the site are investigated. Note the bio control has been very successful in other parts of the province.
 - Caraway, the infestations along the Alaska Highway really took off this year. It appears the NEIPC 2007-2008 decision to begin work on containing Caraway was timely.
 - Common Tansy, the visibility of Common Tansy is going to assist in containing the species as it is easy to locate and awareness work should bring in reports.
- 21) R-4 Multi Agency PMP Mr. Drinkwater advised members that the Ministry of Forests and Range; Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; have commenced application for a multiple agency Pest Management Permit.
- 22) R-5 Sunrise Environmental report (handout) Mr. Andrew Shwetz reviewed the 2009 Pest Management Program. Areas covered included highways, Regional District landfills, gravel pits and pastures (MoFR).
- 23) Pipelines Discussion ensued regarding invasive plants at pipeline sites. It was felt that Spectra Energy should be encouraged to increase their participation.
- MOVED by Dennis Meier, SECONDED by Sonja Leverkus,
- a) that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to Steve Henderson, Spectra Energy Transmission and Pembina Pipeline Corporation requesting that their companies consider investing funding towards invasive plant management within their pipeline right-of-ways for the 2010 / 2011 season;
 - b) with copies to Devin Scheck, Oil and Gas Commission and Marion Johannson, Spectra Energy Transmission.
- CARRIED.
- 24) R-7 Agency Reports Mr. Daryl Nolan, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure advised members that the invasive plant budget will remain the same for 2010.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 25) NB-1
Cosmetic use
of herbicides
- MOVED by Karen Goodings, SECONDED by Dennis Meier,
that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee recommend to the
Regional Board that a letter be forwarded to the Honourable Barry
Penner, Minister of Environment explaining the difference between
cosmetic use of herbicides versus agricultural / forestry use of
herbicides.
- CARRIED.
- 26) NB-2 Outreach
and Education
Program
- A program has been initiated for providing outreach support in a number
of locations across the province. The program will hire unemployed
workers (no need to be a resource worker) to increase awareness of
invasive plants by providing youth programs, spotters workshops, assist
at local community events, etc. The Invasive Plant Council has hired
Barb Stewart as Program Manager for this two year program.
- MOVED by Andrew Shwetz, SECONDED by Mike Deliman,
that the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee, support in principle, the
Hot Spots Outreach and Education Program, to increase awareness of
invasive plants by providing youth programs, subject to program
operation costs and the availability of interested participants.
- CARRIED.
- 27) Committee
Report
- MOVED by Troy Gould, SECONDED by Dennis Meier,
that the recommendations from the Northeast Invasive Plant Committee
Meeting of December 8, 2009 be recommended to the Regional Board
for approval.
- CARRIED.
- 28) Adjournment
- MOVED by Mike McConnell, SECONDED by Art Seidl,
that the meeting be adjourned.
- CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Tim Caton,
Chair

S. Garrett,
Corporate Services Coordinator