

## Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board | Q3 Regular Meeting

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, August 7th, 2024, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Central Kitsap Fire Station #41, 7600 Old Military Rd NE, Bremerton, WA 98311

### Members/Staff present:

- Shannon Rose (Central Kitsap)
- Courtney Brooks via Zoom (South Kitsap)
- Dylan Mendenhall (Bremerton, Chair)
- Wendy Westerlund (Bainbridge Island, Vice Chair) joined late via Zoom
- Jess Sappington (WSU Extension)
- Jade Jarvis (Staff)
- Kirvie Yobech (Staff)

**Absent:** Terese Walters (North Kitsap) excused.

**Guests:** 2 members of the public, in-person.

### 1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with quorum.
- b. Review and adopt agenda
  - i. **M:** Dylan moves to amend agenda to add Mapping and Additional Program Updates. Shannon seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
  - ii. **M:** Dylan moves to shift Program Updates to precede General Business. Shannon seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- c. Conflict of interest disclosure – no known conflict of interests by Board members.

### 2. Public Comment

- Bonnie Craig: Olympic View Road off Anderson Hill. Concern with proliferation of Scotch Broom spreading in new developments and ponds. Also, tansy ragwort. No capacity to address noxious weeds.
- Donna Butts: Lived in Kitsap for 79 years. Walk Olympic View and pull scotch broom along the road. New fire station came in, Sterling Hills development, area is full of noxious weeds. Pond that used to be there is gone now. Asked to outreach to homeowners' association to inform about Noxious Weed Control. Provide information about noxious weeds and how to control through mailings to landowners.

### 3. Program Updates

- a. Compliance and policy issues with City of Bainbridge Island (CBI) – Jade Jarvis
  - i. Received numerous calls and reports of noxious weeds on CBI properties
  - ii. CBI has policy to not use certain herbicides for treatment
  - iii. City Council had meeting in July to discuss exemption of use
  - iv. Dylan sent informational letter to Director of Public Works regarding use pesticides to control noxious weeds. Sent from personal account, not from the NWCB.
  - v. Q: Courtney – could the letter be sent to Board to read? Jade: Yes
  - vi. Q: Shannon – are all toxic weeds required to be controlled? Jade: No, some are Class A or B-designates, but others, like Tansy Ragwort are Class B-non designates meaning control is not required. They can be handled by landowners mechanically or through other means.
  - vii. Shannon: Request that outreach be sent to landowners, so they know how to address.
  
- b. IPM policy development – Jade Jarvis
  - i. Wendy, Jess, Jade
  - ii. Provided overview of work conducted by IPM working group
  - iii. Q: Dylan – how does the board want to prioritize species? Jade & Jess: Still in development, need to be fleshed out by the subgroup.
  - iv. Proposal to have a draft ready for Q4 meeting
  
- c. Education and Outreach – Dylan Mendenhall
  - i. Jade, Courtney, Dylan
  - ii. Had one meeting to discuss plans
  - iii. Tabled at Farmers Market at City of Port Orchard
  - iv. Jess – consider showcasing NWCB brochures/flyers at WSU Agriculture Education booth. Wednesday – Sunday, August 21-25, 2024.
  - v. A: Jade will provide information to Jess for the Kitsap County Fair.
  - vi. Dylan – suggest we put together a kit for outreach. Look at a checklist
  - vii. A: Jade to follow up with Dylan on items.
  - viii. Courtney – asking for basic information put together for outreach.
  
- d. Mapping – Jade Jarvis, Dylan Mendenhall

- i. Map has points from reports submitted through See Click Fix and previous program monitoring.
  - ii. Really powerful tool to have. Can help with prioritization of actions.
  - iii. **A:** Verify what we can share online publicly regarding private addresses.
  - iv. **A:** Jade to verify shiny geranium as Class B-Designate or Non Designate.
  - v. Dylan highlights Bradley method to target priority species – Giant Hogweed, focus on isolated populations first to prevent spread.
  - vi. Dylan – doing monitoring is high priority right now.
  - vii. Shannon – agreed. Need to know where the worst populations are first, and in what regions. Sees lots of noxious weeds in the right of way.
  - viii. Jess – tool is highly impactful. Once it is updated, can be used to monitor to see how effective treatment and strategies are.
- e. Additional Program Updates: Collaborating with Kitsap County Public Works Roads and City of Port Orchard – Jade Jarvis
  - i. Jurisdictions do not have capacity and expertise to spot treat certain species. Suggest we establish an on-call contractor to provide treatment – local jurisdictions could have interlocal agreements or MOUs. These jurisdictions would cover a certain
  - ii. Jess – what are some red flags you’ve seen with previous program vs this suggestion? Jade: May be difficult to track efforts with work outsourced to contractor. But we could solve this by including data collection and monitoring in contract.
  - iii. Courtney – makes sense to have goal of starting in 2025. Start smaller, then aim to expand later.
  - iv. Dylan – goal to have contract ready in start of 2025. Some species need to be treated starting in early spring.
  - v. **A:** begin working on setting up an on-call contractor for the County PW roads and other departments to be used. Aim start date to be in January 2025. Need to figure out the budget at a later meeting.

#### 4. General Business

- a. Minutes
  - i. **M:** Dylan moves to approve minutes, Courtney seconds; passed unanimously.
- b. Budget – Jade Jarvis, Dylan Mendenhall

- i. Jade provided overview of 2024 budget, actuals/expenditures to date, and remaining balance.
- ii. Disposal Pilot Program - Jess suggestion – put more effort into outreach about the information. Data collected at the disposal facility could be a good data point to use.
- iii. Could provide outreach information at transfer stations to people that come to dispose noxious weeds. Can also outreach through various outreach methods about weeds to focus on.
- iv. **M:** Dylan – motion moved, seconded by Shannon, to continue the Disposal program through 2025, spending no more than the remaining \$7,404 in 2024, and no more than \$10,000 in 2025. Motions passed unanimously.
- v. Dylan provided overview of impacts of inflation on current surplus. Loss of value approximately \$96K over 3 years. Should use the money now instead of letting it sit.
- vi. Proposal to hire an outreach program technician at 0.25-0.3 FTE through 2026
  - a. **M:** Dylan made motion, seconded by Courtney.
  - b. Jade provided overview of program technician needs.
  - c. Question about multi-year approval of budget. Yes, can approve but will re-evaluate annually.
  - d. **M:** Dylan – moves to amend motion to include funding not to exceed \$8K in 2024, \$31K in 2025, and not to exceed \$33K through 2026.
  - e. Motion carries unanimously to approve funding through 2026.
- vii. Proposal to request funds from budget to survey and monitor for two years
  - a. **M:** Dylan – move to request funds from budget surplus not to exceed \$100K in 2025 for rapid assessment and monitoring. Seconded by Shannon. Board enters discussion.
  - b. Have a couple of options – could hire botanist or contractor.
  - c. Wendy – would like to support but want to remind people about the bigger need to provide actual treatment.
  - d. **M:** Dylan – moved to amend motion to increase amount by \$30K to \$130K. Motion passes unanimously.
  - e. Call to question – motion carries unanimously.

## 5. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at roughly 8:40 p.m.