



Dec 9, 2009 MEETING Minutes

Co-chairs: Rita Beard NPS, Jenny Ericson FWS; Members: Al Tasker APHIS; Gina Ramos BLM Mike Ielmini FS

9:00 am Welcome and Introductions

Co-chairs

9:15 am Old Business

Set next meeting, Dec 9 Jenny will host at FWS

Ongoing Business and committee Reports:

- Russ Jones EPA elected as new co-chair
- **WAB** will Invite Secretary of Interior, Ken Salazar, to be the Keynote Speaker; also Mexico's U.S. Ambassador, Arturo Sarukhan.
- **NISAW 2010**
 - FICMNEW 10 min slot
 - Reid will host a hill reception
 - ANSTF noted at meeting regional panels should participate
- **Factbook update** (Gina Ramos) BLM is starting final mark-up Problems with FTP site.
- **SRM/WSSA Feb 8** FICMNEW will send the booth. Ask about an APHIS booth?
- **2010 DOI Conf on the environment.** April 26-30 in Portland.
- **Website update.**

New Business and agency Updates

- Western Weed Coordinating Coordinating Committee (WWCC) annual meeting in Las Vegas December 1-3, 2009. Al Tasker APHIS, Jenny Ericson FWS, Gina Ramos BLM and Rita Beard NPS presented program updates. Rita did a FICMNEW update. There was expressed interest from several

states for a regional EDRR approach. Various funding pots are available, but a proposal would be needed.

- BLM
 - Hired Carol Spurrier
 - Tom Mendenhall contact for Aquatic beasts
 - Deploying a national database
 - 2010 DOI Conference on the Environment April 26-30, 2010, Portland, OR
 - Expected topics to be covered:
 - Energy
 - Transportation
 - Environmental management systems
 - Greenhouse gases and climate change
 - Sustainable practices, such as sustainable buildings, electronics stewardship, green procurement and solid waste management
 - NEPA
 - Environmental liabilities
 - Emergency Response???? ESF 10 and 11
 - Environmental compliance
 - Some subject matter training (HazMat and other) will be offered as well.

- APHIS
 - Attended meeting Nov 19-21 Biomass & New Bioeconomy, Canberra, Aus. Al Tasker presented an invited key-note speech entitled “National and International Policy requirements for the safe importation and use of new crop species and varieties”. The conference was co-sponsored by The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization of Australia (CSIRO) and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). CSIRO is Australia's national science agency, similar to our sister organization, the USDA Agricultural Research Service. OECD is an international organization of 30 countries that accept the principles of representative democracy and free-market economy. Dr. Tasker also co-chaired with Dr. Bill Roberts of Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Australia (DAFF) a discussion group on International Policy needs to ensure sustainable development of bio-energy or other non-food crops, along with risk assessment strategies for new crops.
 - As an outcome of the above meeting, Al has been invited to participate in the Quadrilateral Scientific Collaboration in Plant Biosecurity (Quads) in development of a Weeds management toolbox. Quads includes representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the U.S.
 - Prior to the Biosecurity meeting, Al presented a weed seminar at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Various field trips to research trials and discussions of weed management projects and policies were held with personnel from Charles Sturt Univ., DAFF, and CSIRO, as well as research ecologists from various other countries.
 - *Orobanche ramosa* detection in Calif. Working on program design
 - *Mikania micrantha* detected in Miami, Florida
 - Weed program rule to update 7 CFR 360 and add seven new species to the Federal Noxious Weed list comment closed. Working on response.
 - Final on Interim rule on comment to add 2 *Lygodium* spp. to FNW list already regulated under Federal Order as quarantine pests
 - APHIS suit on the *Diorhabda elongata* moving into Willow flycatcher habitat. Movement was not done by APHIS.
 1. All Permits are revoked

2. Reopen Endangered Spp. consultation w/ FWS
- Continued work on Biomass. FSA asked for APHIS approach to invasives language in farm bill.
- FS
 - New Invasive Spp. admin policy finished awaiting approval by management.
 - Lake Tahoe initiative on aquatic invasives, EDRR.
 - FWS
 - Lacey Act. The agency has been tasked with leading a review of the injurious provisions of the Lacey Act . A work team has been established.
 - Senate hearings last week focused on nutria, pythons and feral swine (S. 1965, Louisiana).
 - NPS
 - Review of EMT program kicked off.
 - Discussing possible reorg for overall invasives management

Possible Topic/Speakers for future meetings

Suggestions

1. MISC/ARS speaker (John Lydon),
2. WLBG talk (Kerrie Kyde MD DNR)
3. APHIS speaker on enforcement (SITC or IES)
4. New barberry/wheat rust mgt or *P. ramorum* issues Prakash Hebbar (EDP)

- **Tentative Schedule for 2009**
 - **NISAW Jan 10-14, 2010;**
 - **January FICMNEW meeting: Jan 27,**
 - **February FICMNEW meeting: Feb 24.**