



# PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

## Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, December 2, 2015

PLACE: Regional District offices, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Director Leonard Hiebert – Meeting Chair  
Director Karen Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'  
Director Brad Sperling, Electoral Area 'C'  
Art Seidl, Peace River Regional Cattlemen's Association  
Mike Pangman, MGP Contracting  
Jim Chramosta, Shell Canada  
Bob Norton, District of Hudson's Hope  
Amber Doonan, District of Tumbler Ridge  
Ella Head, District of Tumbler Ridge  
Aaron Thompson, Village of Pouce Coupe  
Paul Hawkins, Louisiana Pacific  
Nathan O'Reilly, Spectrum Resource Group  
Amber Bergen, BC Oil and Gas Commission  
Sheri Connolly, BC Timber Sales  
Elizabeth Hunt, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Sheena Briggs, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Matt Edgar, Progress Energy  
Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture  
Katryna Schreiner, Spectrum Resource Group  
Brian Stratuliak, Peace River Regional Cattlemen's Association

### By teleconference

Darryl Nolan, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Manny Mariotto, Ministry of Environment

### Guests

Kathy Voth, Livestock for Landscapes  
Sandra Burton, Peace River Forage Association  
Arthur Hadland

### Staff

Jeff Rahn, General Manager of Environmental Services  
Kari Bondaroff, Manager of Invasive Plant Program  
Denise Booy, Invasive Plant Coordinator  
Suzanne Garrett, Corporate Services Coordinator

1) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **Notice of New Business:**

Lori Vickers Weed Free Forage Program

2) Adoption of the Agenda MOVED by Amber Doonan, SECONDED by Elizabeth Hunt, that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee meeting agenda for the December 2, 2015 meeting, including additional items for the agenda, be adopted as amended:

### **Notice of New Business:**

2) Adoption of the  
Agenda (cont'd)

**Adoption of the Minutes:**

M-1 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants Monitoring Committee Meeting  
Minutes of April 1, 2015

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**Correspondence:**

C-1 November 3, 2015 letter from Arthur Hadland regarding Scentless  
Chamomile (referred by the Regional Board November 12, 2015)

**Delegations:**

D-1 Kathy Voth, Livestock for Landscapes and Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture  
"Educating Livestock to eat weeds"

D-2 Mike Pangman, Invasive Plant Area Controller regarding an update on the  
Regional District's 2015 plant program

**Reports:**

R-1 Roundtable 2015 Agency Invasive Plant Program reports  
a) Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
b) BC Hydro  
c) Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
d) Rancher Program  
e) Aboriginal groups  
f) Matt Edgar, Progress Energy  
g) Other Oil and Gas Sectors  
h) Other agencies

R-2 Update on the 2015 Compliance and Enforcement program and input for  
initiation of 2016 field season – Denise Booy

R-2 Update on the 2015 Education and Outreach program and First Nations  
outreach program – Kari Bondaroff

**New Business:**

NB-1 2015 Strategic Plan and Profile – changes for 2016

NB-2 2015 Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the Regional District – feedback

NB-3 Hawkweed containment line – Denise McLean

NB-4 Scentless Chamomile bio-control/strategy for treatment – Denise McLean

NB-5 New program "Play, Clean, Go" – Kari Bondaroff

**Items for Information**

I-1 IPC Monitoring Committee Terms of Reference

**Adjournment:**

CARRIED.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

3) M-1 SPPIPMC MOVED by Amber Doonan, SECONDED by Brian Stratuliak,  
Mtg. Min. of April 1, that the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Meeting  
2015 minutes of April 1, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

4) C-1 re: Scentless Mr. Hadland reviewed information on Scentless Chamomile (SC) and its effects  
Chamomile on the agriculture industry. He noted that SC is a prolific plant, found along roads  
and public places. The plant can be controlled by hand-picking or using the chemical  
Ally. Mr. Hadland encouraged the Committee to get behind producers in controlling  
this invasive plant.

Correspondence: (continued)

- 4) C-1 continued SC is listed in Category B – Medium Priority for eradication and containment in the Strategic Plan and Profile. Plants in Category B are recognized as being a threat to the fine seed industry. It was noted that when other agencies/contractors find SC adjacent to agricultural land it is treated as a priority as depicted in the Strategic Plan. It was suggested that education/awareness be increased, i.e. newspapers, schools, meetings with municipal councils, etc.

**DELEGATION:**

- 5) D-1 re: Cows Eat Weeds The delegation provided information on the simple, inexpensive process that anyone can teach livestock to eat weeds. Topics included:
- nutritional value of invasive plants
  - livestock can learn what to eat
  - six producers in region completed training (2015 partnership between the Regional District, Peace River Forage Association, Ministry of Agriculture, SP Grain Co-op and PRAD) with great results
  - lots of interest in the project
  - application for funding to continue the trial program for a further 3 year term has been applied for
- 6) Recess The meeting recessed at 11:55 pm
- 7) Reconvene The meeting reconvened at 1:00 pm
- 8) Vary the Agenda MOVED by Art Seidl, SECONDED by Amber Doonan, That the agenda be varied to deal with item D-2 at this time.
- 9) D-2 re: 2015 plant program Mr. Pangman, Invasive Plant Area Controller updated members on the Regional District's 2015 plant program. 113 properties were inspected, with 51 being treated (19.3 ha). A formal survey of all properties will be undertaken in 2016.

**REPORTS:**

- 10) R-1 Agency/ Group reports The following agencies/groups/sectors provided updates to their 2015 invasive programs:
- Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (handout)
- Report a Weed – 24 reports were received
  - North Peace – conducted 240 surveys on 169 sites; 49 chemical treatments and 64 mechanical treatments on 90 sites
  - Pine Pass – conducted 536 surveys on 208 sites; 183 chemical treatments and 22 mechanical treatments on 177 sites
  - South Peace – conducted 365 surveys on 204 sites; 333 chemical treatments and 20 mechanical treatments on 180 sites. \$8,000 was expended on the Marsh Plume Thistle site in the Groundbirch area
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Joint contract with FLNRO
  - discovered St. John's Wort in the Stewart Lake gravel pit – was removed from site
  - North Africa seed grass was discovered in seed mix, this is the third incident – batch was refused
  - Directing more resources toward gravel pits in 2016

Reports: (continued)

10) R-1

Rancher Program

- Sunset Prairie pasture – hired private contractor to do the work
- Canada Thistle is the main focus

Progress Energy (FSJ)

- Increased education and awareness with staff
- Revised Invasive Plant Management plan to include more staff education
- Appreciation for RD program – amazing resources, staff and printed material

Shell Canada

- will be looking for alternative sources of gravel

Louisiana Pacific

- new in position
- looking for information on community pastures
- resources suggested web sites of Peace River Forage Association and the Ministry of Transportation

11) R-2 re:  
C & E update

Ms. Denise Booy, Invasive Plant Program Coordinator updated members on the compliance and enforcement program.

- 54 weed reports received (28 within RD jurisdiction; 26 forwarded to appropriate agency)
- Action taken – 12 verbal warnings; 5 enforcement action taken; 11 education provided
- Compliance rate – 17 required treatment; 5 treatment was followed; 2 treatment was not followed (follow-up in 2016).

Suggestions for 2016

- Forward notification letter to industrial and commercial properties reminding them it is their responsibility to control invasive plants on their property
- Create a list of herbicide contractors – to provide to landowners as outreach
- Additional outreach/education activities aimed at other users, i.e. RD/municipal staff, ensure RD/municipal/public buildings have carabiners available
- Promote weed pull events
- Conduct random weed inspections

12) R-3 re:  
Education and  
Outreach update

Ms. Kari Bondaroff, updated members on the education and outreach activities that took place in 2015.

- Classroom activities included building fairy gardens, kaleidoscopes, geocaching, plant ID, relay races, weedy art projects and ecology games
- Supported FLNRO implementation of a rancher contract with Sunset Prairie Community Pasture
- Supported the livestock eat weeds project
- Worked with Saulteau First Nations to implement an integrated community approach to managing invasive plants on their lands

Reports: (continued)

12) R-3

Suggestions for 2016

- Planning for monitoring and treatment times has been initiated for the 2016 with the concept of expanding this side of the program to include monitoring the efficiencies within the region.
- Launch of new programs to increase awareness:
  - Play, Clean and Go – partner FLNRO and BC Parks to establish boot cleaning stations at trailheads.
  - Plantwise – work with ISCBC and local nurseries to eliminate the sale of invasive ornamentals and increase the sale of native, or non-invasive alternatives.

### **NEW BUSINESS;**

13) NB-1 re:  
Strategic Plan

Members were encouraged to review and forward comments and/or suggested changes of the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plants and Noxious Weeds to [Kari.Bondaroff@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:Kari.Bondaroff@prrd.bc.ca) by February 15, 2016. Revisions will be compiled into the document for Committee review at the spring meeting.

14) NB-2 re:  
Plant Profiles

The Profile of Invasive Plant Species within the PRRD document will be forwarded to members for their review. Members were requested to forward comments and/or suggested changes to [Kari.Bondaroff@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:Kari.Bondaroff@prrd.bc.ca) by February 15, 2016. Revisions will be compiled into the document for Committee review at the spring meeting.

15) NB-3 and  
NB-4 re: hawkweed  
and SC

MOVED by Mike Pangman, SECONDED by Art Seidl,  
That new business items NB-3 Hawkweed Containment Line and NB-4 Scentless Chamomile bio-control and strategy for treatment be referred to the spring meeting.

CARRIED.

16) NB-5 re:  
Weed Free  
Forage

Members were advised that the Weed Free Forage program, first initiated in 2011, is in the process of be re-activated. Currently there is one certified producer in the region.

17) Adjournment

MOVED by Elizabeth Hunt, SECONDED by Art Seidl,  
that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm

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Leonard Hiebert  
Chair

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Suzanne Garrett  
Corporate Services Coordinator