



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN AND PROFILE OF INVASIVE PLANT MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021

LOCATION Peace River Regional District Office, Dawson Creek, BC

ATTENDANCE

Committee Directors

Director Hiebert, Electoral Area 'D' – Committee Chair
Director Goodings, Electoral Area 'B'
(via Zoom)
Director Sperling, Electoral Area 'C' – ex officio

Staff

Kari Bondaroff, GM of Environmental Services
Daris Gillis, Environmental Services Manager
Suzanne Garrett, Recorder

Committee Members (via Zoom)

Denise McLean, Ministry FLNRORD
Danielle Fisher, Spectrum Resource Group Inc.
Robin Routledge, BC Hydro – Site C
Derek Hogan, Ministry of Transportation
Brian Stratuliak, PR Regional Cattlemen's Association
Krisha Granger, Ministry FLNRORD - Range
Penni Adams, Northwest Invasive Plant Council
Breanne Truman, Spectrum Resource Group Inc.
Connor Flemming, West Moberly First Nations
George Desjarlais, West Moberly First Nations

Ella Head, District of Tumbler Ridge
Mike Pangman, MGP Contracting & NWIPC Field
Coordinator
Paul Hawkins, Louisiana Pacific
Shelley Fulmes, Argo Roads
Eran Spence, Moberly Lake First Nations
Devon Aaroe, City of Dawson Creek
Catherine Henry, City of Dawson Creek
Vanessa Lea, Conuma Coal
Tanya Sharko, Ministry FLNRORD - Range

Delegation (via Zoom)

Sue Staniforth, Invasive Species Council of BC

1. CALL TO ORDER The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 am

2. DIRECTORS' NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- 3.1 Adoption of Agenda
- MOVED Brian Stratuliak, SECONDED Mike Pangman,
That the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee adopt the
November 30, 2021 Meeting Agenda:
1. Call to Order
 2. Directors' Notice of New Business
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Gallery Comments or Questions
 5. Adoption of Minutes
 - 5.1 Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes
of April 13, 2021
 6. Business Arising from the Minutes



3.1 Adoption of Agenda
(continued)

7. Delegations
 - 7.1 Sue Staniforth, Invasive Species Council of BC, Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program update (10:30 am)
8. Correspondence
9. Reports
 - 9.1 Verbal – Roundtable updates 2021 Agency Programs; Ministry of FLNRORD; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; Ranger Program (attached); First Nations; oil and gas sectors; others.
 - 9.2 Verbal – 2021 PRRD Contractor Report, Mike Pangman, Area Controller
 - 9.3 Review of draft 2021 Annual Report
 - 9.4 Invasive Plant categorization discussion
 - 9.5 Review of draft 2022 Strategic Plan and Profile
10. New Business
11. Diary
12. Item(s) for Information
 - 12.1 Terms of Reference
13. Adjournment

CARRIED

4. GALLERY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 5.1
April 13, 2021 Minutes
- MOVED Director Goodings, SECONDED Ella Head,
That the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee adopt the April 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

7. DELEGATION

- 7.1 Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program update
- Sue Staniforth, Invasive Species Council of BC (ISCBC) provided the Committee with an update on the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program.
- Invasive Species Council of BC has received funding from BC Hydro through the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program.
 - Project involves working with the Strategic Plan and Profile of Invasive Plant Monitoring Committee to help guide the project, assess key invasive species of concern, identify regional training/information needs and share resources,
 - Providing community workshops and webinars including a Pesticide Applicator Certification course,
 - Working directly with several First Nations in the region to assess their needs in terms of training, signage, resources and community information,
 - Providing practical invasive species training for 2-4 individuals in each partner Nation community, including invasive species identification, management techniques and field skills,
 - The development in partnership of an Invasive Species Management Plan specifically for selected regions, based on an inventory of priority areas and infestations.

The power point presentation will be provided to Committee members via email.



7.1 (continued)

A question and answer period ensued. Topics included:

- It was confirmed that the ISCBC, under this program, is not developing another invasive species plan. The Regional District Strategic Plan would be used to share with others for training purposes, identify preferred species to focus on.
- Sue Staniforth will confirm if the program will include the Northern Rockies Regional District as funding is conditional from BC Hydro and it is unclear if Northern Rockies falls within that purview.
- Take into account there are definite differences on how invasive species are prioritized and treated on private/public lands.

9. REPORTS

9.1 Roundtable Updates

Brian Stratuliak - Sunset Prairie Livestock Association (SPLA)

Funding of the Rancher's contract with FLNRORD had been initially cancelled in 2021. Following a letter writing campaign to reverse the decision funding was reinstated, with a slight increase to include treatment of OH sites. The program has been a huge success.

Denise McLean, Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

- Little funding this year, two Marsh Plume Thistle sites were treated
- Funded Tsay Keh Dene around Williston - Spotted Knapweed infestation
- Conducted remote area survey
- Funding for on-line Pesticide Applicator course
- Program works on bio control – initial release for Oxeye Daisy in southern BC, hope to move bio control north
- Upcoming - replacement of IAPP data base/mapping/recording. New program called "Observation", all users will need to be trained. IAPP data will be in the background. Will eventually include all invasive species not just plants.

In response to a question regarding funding it was noted that education and awareness funding is released at the end of March. At this point it is unclear what level of funding will be available for the 2022 program. Provincial EDRR is the most important and most funding will be applied there.

Penni Adams, Northwest Invasive Plant Council of BC

Regional District species list is similar to the Council's. Engaged the services of Mr. Pangman as Field Coordinator for 2021. Pleased with completed ground work. Different program methods, i.e. large sites what does or does not get treated. Conducted field training for several First Nations, surveying plants. All areas are coming up for tender this year, will be making some changes, target EDRR.

Breanne Truman, Spectrum Resource Group Inc.

Spectrum is a private contractor, in 2021 conducted work for BC Hydro, Canfor and Enbridge. Completed right-of-way survey and treatment. Second year treating Oxeye Daisy.



9.1 Roundtable Updates
(continued)

Paul Hawkins, Louisiana Pacific

Grass seeding strategy for exposed soil areas. Monitored logged and non-logged areas. No treatments conducted in 2021.

Robin Routledge, BC Hydro

Maintaining bio control on Dalmatian Toadflax. Treated an average of 40 ha, surveyed 3,400 ha. Conducted spot spraying and hand pulling in certain areas.

Ella Head, Parks and Recreation, District of Tumbler Ridge

No spraying carried out this year. Invasive plants reduced in areas that were sprayed last year. Training of summer students.

George Desjarlais, West Moberly First Nations

Gathering information to determine which department would be best suited to participate on the Committee.

Derek Hogan, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

This is first year overseeing Peace Region contract. Contract started in early July, surveyed 552 sites, and treated 222 sites including 23 gravel pits. Treated Hawkweed, Scentless Chamomile, Canada Thistle and Toadflax. Regional EDRR 18 sites including Chicory, Cypress Spurge, Parsnip, St Johns wart – will deal with these sites in 2022. Japanese Knotweed reported in IAPP – will survey for conclusive ID and treat in 2022 if necessary.

Catherine Henry, City of Dawson Creek

Plan to manage some sites, gathering information.

Vanessa Lea, Conuma Resources (Wolverine Mine)

Treated Yellow Hawkweed, Goatsbeard, Canada Thistle. Hand pulled 18 ha. Disturbed areas will be evaluated in 2022.

9.2 Contractor Report

Mike Pangman, MGP Contracting, PRRD Area Controller reported on the 2021 invasive plant program.

- Surveyed 62 Regional District properties, including parks, solid waste sites, transfer stations, lagoons, community/recreation grounds, tankloaders, Charlie Lake Fire Hall and broadcasting towers.
- 57 sites were treated.
- No new infestations.
- REDRR species historically found include Big Head Knapweed and Chicory, none have been found in the past 2 years (2020-2021).



9.3 Review of 2021 Annual report

Daris Gillis, Environmental Services Manager updated members on the 2021 Invasive Plant Program Work Plan priorities and results.

- All properties were monitored for efficacy.
- Education and awareness – continue support of the Peace River Forage Association's quarterly seminars. Support to stakeholders through invasive plant ID, outreach materials, integrated pest management planning, and best management practices.
- Coordinator and Partnership building – First Nations partnerships were put on hold due to COVID.

9.4 Invasive Plant categorization

Committee members reviewed the Profile of Invasive Plant Species

- Formatting - species list Table 4 in Strat Plan does not match the list in the plant list
- **EDRR Black Henbane**, should this plant remain on the list?
- This plant is in the Provincial EDRR list and is treated no matter what jurisdiction it is found in. If the plan is to list one Provincial EDRR plant in the Profile list, then all Provincial EDRR plants should be listed. Note – there has been no movement of the plant from the area where it is located.
- The concern was that the plant could transition into the PRRD.
- If the plant can be easily transferred/transported it should remain on the list.
- If there is a risk of it moving into the PRRD, put it on the education list.
- For consideration – to remove
- **Greater Knapweed** has been reported in a municipality, this should be added
- Need to confirm, will check IAPP for location and survey in 2022.
- **Marsh Plume Thistle** – does not qualify for REDRR, too many sites, although contained to 2 specific areas within the PRRD.
- Still a risk plant, all sites within one area are contained, however they could move into other areas, keep it on list - still too risky.
- **North Africa Grass** used to be on Provincial EDRR list. More sites have been discovered so should be reinstated on the list. It is a high risk species (winter annual) and can cause problems - dries out and becomes a fire hazard. Do not use grass seed on reclamation sites. Critical should be on Regional EDRR list.

Recess

The Chair recessed the meeting to luncheon at 12:04

Reconvene

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 12:49

9.4 Invasive Plant Categorization (continued)

- **Mountain Bluet** - move to Category A - found in gardens, private land, and roadsides – more than 10 sites.
- Fits in Regional EDRR. How do you enforce on private land?
- Enforcement provided for in Regional District Invasive Plant bylaw. Why should it be placed on the Regional EDRR list?
- It is extremely invasive. Escapes onto other stakeholders priority areas.
- IAPP confirmed sites. Want to leave it as Regional EDRR as a species to treat. If moved from the list it may not get treated.
- Need to protect all land in Peace Region. If only focussing on agriculture then its time to remove many other species from the list.

9.4 Invasive Plant
Categorization
(continued)

- Very intrusive plant, spreads easily and is difficult to contain.
- Regional District works with retailers to ensure plants are not sold. Do not want to see this become a bigger problem.
- Biggest issue is impact to ecosystem, plant foliage does not permit any light or moisture to penetrate.
- If you can enforce it then move it.
- Not Provincially listed as noxious. No ability to use *Weed Control Act* on this species.
- **Dalmatian Toadflax** – move to Category B – bio-control has proven to be effective in the Peace.
- **Meadow Goats-Beard** – move to Regional EDRR – very few sites now. Plant impacts grasslands and fields.
- **Wild Caraway** – move to Category B – it is extensive. Livestock will eat it. Not as much of a threat as originally thought.
- Or move under Education and Awareness, not aggressively treating in agriculture area, but keep on radar.
- Agreed
- **Annual Bluegrass** – agriculture seed crop. Grass is in many lawns, should be removed as it makes the list less credible.
- Was left on the list at the request of the Forage Seed Association.
- Add note (Prov EDRR) after names of **Flowering Rush** and **Yellow Floating Heart**

9.5 Draft 2022 Strategic
Plan and Profile

- The Committee reviewed the 2022 Draft Strategic Plan and Profile
- Change language to reflect updated terms, i.e. Crown Lands to Public Lands.
 - Page 13 – second bullet, refers to survey of historical EDRR sites. Summer students monitor 10% of sites (those entered into IAPP). Suggest going to sites that have been previously 0%, lowest priority sometimes not revisited – this would confirm that they are still at 0% for invasive plants
 - Page 14 “coordination and partnership building”. Concern was expressed that this is not taking place as much as it used to. Should be connecting with other stakeholders i.e. First Nations, Oil and Gas industry, etc. Committee meetings should take place more than twice per year. Participate with adjacent invasive plant committees such as NWIPC, and others in close proximity - BC and Alberta. Work collaboratively to keep invasive species out of respective areas.
 - Spring meeting should be more comprehensive, what is out on the land, stakeholder’s jurisdictions issues, what is being treated, etc. Feel Strategic Plan relates strictly to Regional District properties, not the whole region. Meetings provide education - what each jurisdiction has for priorities, what plans are, and how all groups can work together.
 - Refer to Terms of Reference for the Committee.
 - Add to Plan - First Nation partnerships - acknowledge funding from FLNRORD.
 - Update logo of FLNRORD – Tanya Sharko to provide to the PRRD.

10. NEW BUSINESS



12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 Terms of Reference

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the Meeting at 1:50 pm

Director Hiebert, Meeting Chair

S. Garrett, Recorder

Draft /
For Information only