

CWMA stakeholders meeting  
11/24/09 at 9:30 – 10:30 AM  
NRCS Field Office – 590 University Ave

## Minutes

Present: Darcy Etcheverry – FSWCD, George Hitz – FSWCD, Melody Springer, Chris Whittle, Irene Wood – Farmers Market.

### Old Business

#### 1. Activities Report

- a. CNIPM – Darcy reported on her trip to the annual Alaska invasive plant conference in Ketchikan. There were many good presentations and she has new ideas for weed control methods this summer. It was an excellent forum for making contacts with other agencies.
- b. Weed free forage update & ideas – Darcy reported that there are no new updates, but an overview of the issue was given to new members. Irene wanted to make sure that producers are informed of the rules of the program (ie. What is considered ‘harvest’ – cutting or baling?). George said he thought the brochure was being revised. Darcy will contact Phil Kaspari in Delta to ask about any updates, revisions, and to find out when the next certification class is being held. Irene will be available to provide comments on program revisions.

#### 2. Funding

- a. IPP update – These funds have been spent according to the guidelines of the grant, which included mapping and control on Creamer’s field, Wedgewood sanctuary, and the fairgrounds.
- b. USFWS grant
  - i. Work committee – Darcy would like to start a committee to address the work plan of the youth corp employees for this summer. We will wait to form this committee when more people are at the meeting. Irene suggested having the employees perform control at the Farmers Market and to set up info booths on certain days.
- c. Forest Service - invasive plant coordinator update – A statewide coordinator is being hired in Palmer. That person will coordinate the hiring of the local positions, one of which will be located in Fairbanks. Trish Wurtz may have more information on this topic.  
\*the position in Palmer was hired – Joan Hope\*

#### 3. Weed Smackdown – Laurel DeVaney from USFWS met with Darcy a few weeks ago to discuss details of the event. A date has been set for June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to coincide with Alaska Invasive Weeds Awareness Week. The event will be held at the Tanana Lakes recreation area in partnership with the Fairbanks North Star Borough (Steve Taylor is our contact). We will keep the group posted on progress of this project.

### New Business

1. Weed Wackers curriculum workshop – Katie Spellman (Villano) will be teaching her Weed Wackers curriculum workshop for educators during UAF’s summer sessions. Everyone who is interested in teaching about invasive plants, or just wants to take an exciting workshop with an enthusiastic instructor, should attend. Registration for summer sessions begins Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>.

2. Invasive species advisory council resolution – HB 12 was introduced to the legislature in January of 2009, which is for the formation of an invasive species council within the Dept. of Fish & Game. Jeanne Ostnes emailed a template resolution for groups to use in support of the bill. Members present thought it was a good bill to support. Darcy will email the draft to members and FCWMA will sign it at the next meeting. Irene thought the council should also include a representative from the Dept. of Commerce.
3. Weed Free Gravel Pits committee – Ruth Gronquist from the BLM has established a weed free gravel committee and Darcy has volunteered to join, though there have not been any meetings to date. The group thought this was a good project for the FCWMA to be involved in. It was noted that this may be a good task for the youth corp employees to be involved in, and that it will be an intensive project to keep gravel pits ‘certified’.
4. Set date for next CWMA meeting – It is the consensus of the group to meet in January and bypass December because of the holidays. Darcy will send out a meeting date by email.