



**Gallatin County Weed Board  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
July 3, 2014**

**ATTENDEES:**

- **Board members:** Keith Mainwaring, Jeff Littlefield, Bob Hofman, Fred Bell, Steve Saunders
- **Others:** John Ansley (Coordinator), Mary Vandery (Program Assistant)

**MINUTES:** Fred Bell moved to approve as submitted, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Hofman – approved unanimously

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Gallatin County Weed Plan approved at the public meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Welcome Steve Saunders to the Board.
- **Monthly Report Q&A**
  - Spraying in the Horseshoe Hills Grant area has started.
  - Question about weeds in turf: In turf we generally recommend Tri-Mec, Speed Zone, Escalade. These herbicides will get rid of weeds better than 2-4D alone.
  - Concerned citizen called to see who enforces the clause of weed control in construction zones for road construction and power lines. We refer to MDT and Forest Service
  - We did a spray day on DNRC state land on corner of Linney and Amsterdam Rd. Met Craig Campbell from the state. Sprayed about 20 acres. Lots of SK, SC
  - Nice public relations to have citizens call to see who is contracted to spray the County Road. Citizen would like to use contractor.
  - Meeting with GVLTA and other agencies on leased hospital property. Leaser desired to rid leased land of lupine and other weeds to improve land for grazing of cattle. There is a difficult balance between the naturalist concern to keep plant diversity and agricultural users. There has been research that indicates after 3 years and the eradication of noxious weeds the residual of herbicide spray is gone and diversity is greater. Land management decisions revert to the land owner.
- **Coordinators Reports**
  - **Budget Input:** Preliminary budget indicates we received what we asked for. Final budget will be available in August.

- **Spray/Crew Update:** Our crew seems to be doing a good job, no issues. Contracted Sprayers – one contractor seems to be doing a very good job, one contractor we are watching. We have been in contact with both contractors and have been assured they will finish the contracted area on time. Cameron Bridge Rd, Thorpe, and Frank Rd are a concern.
  - **Big Sky Weed Committee/TU Weed Pull:** June 14, only about 12 volunteers turned out. Weather may have played a factor with low turnout.
  - **Rental:** Still a good number going out.
  - **Complaints:** Action has been taken by most of the land owners. One has had 2<sup>nd</sup> notice go out. John enquired if the board would like to require the complainant contact the land owner. The board would like us to continue as policy is currently.
  - **Upcoming Events**
    - **Bighorn Sheep Winter Range Spray Day** – July 7 & 10. Backup spraying up in the winter area. NRCS is going to set up a revegetation plan.
    - **Big Sky Weed Pull & Calibration Clinic** – July 8; Community Park
    - **Gallatin County Fair** – We will set up education trailer
    - **Big Sky Spray Day with Madison County** – Aug 6
  - Need to spray some of the additional areas we maintain like
- **Round table**
    - **Concern areas – Steve Saunders:**
      - Oxeye Daisy in Bear Canyon off Kagy in field that will be hayed
      - Oxeye Daisy on Trooper Trail –
        - Steve will make some contacts, or find out who to contact
      - Barnard Ranch – there has been more awareness for the need of weed treatment. Recreational use is very high in this area.
      - Kelly Canyon – GVLTL would like to work on a grant area for treatment of St Johnswort.
    - Expect to find out if the County Administrator will oversee our dept at the next board meeting.

Meeting dismissed 2:07 pm

Next scheduled meeting: August 7, 2013, 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Vanderby

Program Assistant