

Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board | Q2 Meeting

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 6:00-8:00pm.

Location: Port Blakely Conference Room #370, Kitsap County Administration Building,
619 Division St., Port Orchard, WA 98366

Members/Staff present:

- Dylan Mendenhall (Bremerton, Chair)
- Jess Sappington via Zoom (WSU Extension)
- Deb Rudnick (Bainbridge Island)
- Shannon Rose via Zoom (Central Kitsap)
- Courtney Brooks (South Kitsap)
- Jade Jarvis (Program Coordinator, Staff)
- Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech via Zoom (Program Manager, Staff)
- Daria Etchings (Outreach Technician, Staff)

Absent: None

Guests:

David Onstad via Zoom (Kitsap Environmental Coalition)

Julia Booth via Zoom

Cathleen Smith via Zoom

Donald Dick via Zoom

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. with quorum.
- b. Review and adopt agenda
 - i. M: Dylan moves to amend agenda to include biocontrol under general business. Courtney seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - ii. M: Dylan moves to add officer elections after public comment. Deb seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- c. Conflict of interest disclosure
 - i. Tool lending program - GPC is a client of Dylan's so he will abstain as previous discussions have included GPC as a potential partner

2. Public Comment

- No public comments received.

3. Program Updates

- a. RFPs – Monitoring Project & On-Call Contractors (Jade):
 - i. Monitoring RFP closes May 14; interview process follows
 - ii. Only one on-call RFP response; Jade plans to combine on-call services for county and landowners; new RFP draft in progress
 - a. Q: have we received any bids for the monitoring RFP? Unknown
- b. Outreach Activities (Jade):
 - i. Jade updates recent and near future outreach events and activities as well as newly developed materials.
 - ii. Deb attended two outreach events this month.
- c. Long Lake (Jade):
 - i. Aquatechnex to begin final treatment in May; grant deadline was extended to allow for more effective treatments throughout the summer
 - ii. Landowner Workshop on March 26; burlap distribution May 21
 - iii. Final reporting due to Ecology in December

4. Officer Elections

- a. Chair:
 - i. Courtney nominates Dylan. Dylan accepts. Motion passes. Dylan remains Chair.
- b. Vice Chair:
 - i. Dylan nominates Courtney. Deb seconds. Motion passes. Courtney is elected Vice Chair.
- c. Secretary:
 - i. Dylan nominates Deb. Courtney seconds. Motion passes. Deb is elected Secretary.

5. General Business

- a. Approve minutes – January 30, 2025
 - i. M: Dylan moves to approve the January 30, 2025 minutes. Courtney seconds. Motion passes.
- b. Private Landowner Assistance Program proposal (Jade):
 - i. Outlined 3-tier program focusing on high priority species and hardship funding with a landowner funding cap of \$1000/year.
 - a. Tier 1 - Highest priority species funding first
 - a. All Class A

- b. Poison hemlock (priority class B)
 - c. Knotweeds (aggressively grown/spreading)
 - b. Tier 2 - Hardship funding (for citizens required to control but are unable to)
 - a. Must meet Senior and Disabled Tax Exemption
 - i. This is a simple designation to see who qualifies
 - c. Tier 3 - EDRR Funding
 - a. Must be new infestations
 - b. A few Classes Cs, could expand to Class Bs as well
- ii. Board Discussion:
 - a. Q: Shannon asks if the board members/staff should be scouting and notifying of properties with noxious weeds. A: Yes, for any class As.
 - b. Q: Deb asks how are prioritizations handled in terms of funding in a rolling basis? A: Class As are not suspected to be too plentiful so hopefully we can focus on those
 - c. Dylan proposes first come first serve throughout the year. There are scenarios that may make sense over others but having a process will avoid tension from public over why their project wasn't approved.
 - d. Jade proposes applying to more grants to set aside for certain species.
 - e. Q: Dylan states that an internal procedure should be included for transparency for the public. Jade answers that transparency will be ensured on the webpage.
 - f. Q: Deb asks how the application will work—does the landowner have to do the research? Jade answers that the contractors should be dispatched by the County, removing burden from landowner
 - g. Q: Deb asks if there is a mechanism for following years?
 - a. Dylan: Perhaps there should be a caveat that the landowner will have to participate the next year
 - b. Jade: This could be good in terms of effectiveness for eradication rather than starting and not finishing process
 - h. Q: Jess says I don't see an educational component in the overview. Will there be an educational component to build sustainability? A: I could include required packet, offering resources and other programs; Perhaps develop a landowner checklist for

management? I also like the auto sign up for multiple years afterwards.

- a. Kirvie suggests a stewardship agreement or monitoring requirements for landowners that receive assistance
 - iii. M: Dylan moves to revise the proposal, so applications are approved on a first come first serve basis if they fit the criteria for hardship or high priority species. Deb seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - iv. M: Dylan moves to revise our priority species to Class A, Class B designates (have to control), Italian arum, Yellow Archangel, non designate knotweeds, and removing tansy ragwort. Courtney seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - v. M: Dylan moves replace the EDRR and high priority species tiers to be combined to the newly adopted priority species. Deb seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - vi. M: Deb moves to select species eligible for hardship funding list as all Class B Designates as well as:
 - a. the following Class B Non-designates:
 - a. Butterfly bush
 - b. Spurge laurel
 - c. Myrtle laurel
 - d. Spurge flax
 - e. Purple and wand loosestrife
 - f. Tansy ragwort
 - b. Dylan seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - vii. M: Dylan moves to approve the landowner annual funding cap at \$1000/year. Courtney seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
 - a. Q: Jade asks how would we handle an applicant with infestations across property lines? Dylan: This could be part of the discretion if the application is feasible project to pursue
 - viii. M: Dylan motions to require applications be approved after qualifications are verified with either a site visit or photo documentation. Shannon seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- c. Budget (Jade):
- i. Moving forward, will align Q2 and Q3 meetings with budget deadlines
 - ii. A: A virtual special meeting to be scheduled in late July via Doodle Poll
- d. Biocontrol (Jade):
- i. WSU seeks 10 sites for knotweed control by the end of July

- ii. **Q:** Dylan asks where are the sites? A: KC Parks, City of Bremerton, Bainbridge Island Land Trust, City of Bainbridge and private landowner who is on well land
 - iii. No public hearing needed for private sites; board supports transparency
- e. Outreach Planning (Daria):
 - i. Focus on high-impact outreach: tool lending program, monthly newsletter, community materials in community spaces, and citizen science EDRR training
 - ii. Less emphasis on low-return events like farmer's markets
- f. Tool lending program
 - i. Discussed above in outreach planning
- g. Development requirements for noxious weeds (Jade):
 - i. KC Permitting proposed adding weed specs to permit processes.
 - ii. Post-project weed management responsibility should also be addressed
- h. Drone use
 - i. DCD's drone may assist with surveying and outreach visuals.

6. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.