



Sublette County Weed and Pest Control District

PO BOX 729, 12 So. Bench Rd, Pinedale WY 82941



Board of Directors

Chad Hayward

Suzy Michnevich

Jennifer Rees

Pete Guernsey

Ruth Steele

July Board Meeting

The Designated Species Hearing began at 12:06 PM August 10th, 2023. Present were Chad Hayward, Pete Guernsey, Jennifer Rees, Ruth Steele, Julie Kraft, Lars Anderson, Kellie Sellers, and Owen Best from Acme Pest Control.

A risk assessment was completed by staff to rank bulbous bluegrass characteristics as a potential noxious weed. The risk assessment showed that it ranked high, higher than cheatgrass. Pete made a motion to list bulbous bluegrass as a Sublette County Declared noxious weed. Ruth seconded the motion and motion passed.

The last few years the office has been getting calls on the white satin moth that has been seen around town. Staff have gone out on numerous tree calls over the past few summers to help landowners with the white satin moth problem. Owen Best with Acme pest control has been on a few calls. He has been spraying the caterpillars for the Sublette Center and a private landowner that was infested with the caterpillars. He has also noticed the moth in the cemetery and in some of the town trees as well. The White Satin moth caterpillars defoliate cottonwoods and aspen. We are concerned that multiple years of defoliation combined with already stressed or unhealthy trees may result in loss of cottonwoods over time. The insecticide to treat the trees for this problem is quite expensive. Julie will write a supporting letter to the Designated Species committee explaining what we are seeing in Sublette County. Jennifer made a motion to recommend listing the white satin moth as a Sublette County Declared pest. Ruth seconded the motion and the motion passed. Jennifer made a motion to close the hearing and move into our regular board meeting. Pete seconded the motion and the motion passed. The hearing ended at 12:56PM.

The regular board meeting began at 12:57 PM. Present were Chad Hayward, Jennifer Rees, Pete Guernsey, Ruth Steele, Julie Kraft, Andy Currah, Lars Anderson, Kellie Sellers and Owen Best.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read. Pete moved to accept the minutes as edited. Jennifer seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The treasurer's report was presented. Pete moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Ruth seconded the motion and the motion passed. The voucher book was signed at the end of the meeting.

Updates:

Drone - Lars has been completing some cheatgrass survey with the drone and it is awesome.



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Field Seeker continues to be a challenge. Frontier Precision will deploy an update in the software with all the changes on August 19th. It should all be functional to run the reports we need and to bill out invoices.

Most of the crew will finish on August 18th. We will have 2 employees that will be staying until fall. The horseback sprayer has sprayed 82 acres as of today. The helicopter will be here in the middle of August to spray cheatgrass, we have planned to spray around 5000 acres this season.

Grasshoppers and the hemlock cost share projects have been completed. The helicopter sprayed 1710 acres for grasshoppers.

The Gotta go'a program is winding down with only three Thursdays left for this month. There has been great participation. People are bringing weeds in by truck loads. There have been 6,481 lbs collected so far.

Open Issues:

The auditors will be coming to do the audit on August 11th. They have already been here to count inventory for the close of the fiscal year.

The Sublette County board training for Pinedale and Big Piney went well. There will be another state auditor training August 23. The meeting will be virtual.

New Business:

Julie will be attending the area 4 meeting August 15th in Afton.

With no further business, Pete made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:50PM. Jennifer seconded the motion and motion passed. The next board meeting will be held on Sept 7th, 2023 at 12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie Sellers

Chad Hayward, Chair

Julie Kraft, Supervisor