

Note of the March 7, 2023 meeting of the Emerald Ash Borer Sub-committee of the Land Use Management Planning (LUMP) board committee of the Oregon Country Fair.

In Attendance were: Dennis Todd, Kevin Hillery, Steve Wisnovsky, Glenn Johnson, Stephanie Head, Paxton, Robert A., Anne Rogers. Staff-Sierra McComas

Approval of Minutes

Jan 03—Voted to approve minutes from January.

Feb 07—Tabled since the minutes only recently distributed.

Announcements

Guideline Update—All guidelines approved, Sierra and team provided some more updates to language for the firewood policy. Ann says OSU is working on an EAB project/classes and is interested in collaborating with them. Robert suggests letting the public know the fair site is open for environmental/ecological learning opportunities. Dennis - Science Friday podcast talked about wasps that are predatory on EAB being tested on the East coast.

Agency/Partner Contacts, Meetings, etc

An upcoming seminar should be on the EAB website.

Kevin is working on monitoring with ODF, tree trapping.

Recording meetings

Dennis asked about recording the meetings and posting to the .net site. All in attendance agreed that audio could be posted ~1 week after meetings, with the meeting minutes to be finalized and approved after that. Consensus was reached on recording meetings and posting audio, with an exception be made for sensitive information like locations of endangered species or other sensitive information. Agreed that we can ask to stop the recording if such subjects need to be discussed. Also discussed the EAB group having a standing policy to create meetings as a safe space to discuss emotional topics (which again one could ask that the recording be stopped or edited out. Paxton suggests waiting a week after meetings before posting, and until minutes are approved.

Tree Inventory

TreePlotter and collaboration with OR Dept Forestry, Lane Co.: February meeting delayed due to snowstorm; Upcoming meeting with Kevin and ODF collaborator on March 20 at site. Kevin is also planning to attend the March 19 Path Planning Committee meeting on site.

LIDAR: Kevin: LIDAR map has been created by Rosana . See <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/0819bdad605f49aeabe6a330043309ff>

Used early fall LIDAR data, so ash had lost leaves, oaks holding/not showing as much light-colored lichens, maples yellow, etc. Needs revision/updates with ground truthing.

Ann says Rosana plans to join us to hopefully get more dimensional information at March 19 Path Planning site walk. Dennis suggests using Avenza maps to geolocate.

ODF says black oak is thriving in swampy areas by Fern Ridge reservoir. Sierra mentions black oak could be problematic due sudden oak death syndrome (pathogen transmitted via nursery stock).

Volunteer Opportunities- In April the Ash trees should be easier to identify, so would be ideal time to do the inventory. Direct people to contact Kevin Hillery to volunteer.

Messaging around EAB

Need to come up with messaging for a) Internal OCF crews/family and b) Public/Neighbors / partners etc. Discussion on how/if to mark or somehow adorn ash trees, with wording of informational signs and handouts ongoing, also needs removal plan for post-fair. Educational components for public, fair family and neighbors messaging needs work.

Discussed the need for unified, practical, concise messaging/info to be distributed via various OCF channels to coordinators, camp hosts, booth reps, etc. (FYI from Doug at Registration: “We're not planning to send physical mailings to booth reps, and are looking into having a page on the .net site where documents like the one you mention will live.”).

Further discussion on messaging: Need to figure out if we're to include mention of native plants as well as “assisted migration” of those species endemic to areas with climate similar to whatever the most current models predict for OCF in the future. If stock is from nurseries we need to be careful not to import pathogens/pests along with trees. Kevin suggests each camp do their own impact statement and educate their crews. Jon suggests Camp Hosts could help educate, Paxton noted the actual camping crew (vs hosts) would be ideal to reach all the campers. Other channels to communicate messaging: during Human Intervention training pre-fair, for QM or other crews to distribute info, etc. Paxton recommends creating a subcommittee to focus on language of messaging and imaging asap. Jon suggests utilizing Dog Camp as an example and starting place to establish teaching and learning that can be applied to other crews/camps.

A task group was formed to develop messaging, comprising Glenn, Kevin, Anne, Paxton, who will meet on Sunday 3/19 before the Path Planning meeting. Others welcome.

New Business/Homework:

Kevin: Re-send Draft OCF EAB Response Plan

Ann: Work with Rosana to Lidar map URL.

Glenn: find out when Registration sends out booth packets

Kevin, Anne, Paxton, Glenn: Develop messaging; meet on 3/19.

Everyone: Check out Tree Plotter Canopy Eugene site, scroll over to OCF site (Oak in dark green vs Ash lighter green apparent).

<https://pg-cloud.com/EugeneOR/>

And LIDAR-informed GIS map of OCF trees

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/0819bdad605f49aeabe6a330043309ff>.

Schedule

Meetings will continue to be Tuesday after the BoD meetings.

Next Meeting will be via Zoom Tuesday April 4th at 6pm.