

OCF special LUMP committee meeting September 20, 2022 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Dennis Todd, Anna Scott (facilitators), DJ Rogers, Ann Rogers, Lisa Parker, Sierra McComas, Kevin Hillery, Robert Albano, Paxton Hoag, Bobbi Jo Newton, Steve Wisnofsky, Jain Elliott (scribe)

Overview - LUMP zones: What's in them & relation to invasive species

Robert showed us an old map of the Fair Zones, so we can discuss where we'd be the most impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer. Robert is concerned about trees around the paths. Steve says Zone 7 in the flood plain has a lot of ash—from the bus stop up to Miss Piggy's. Paths are mostly big leaf maples. Sierra agrees, also Unorganized Territory, in the 8 the lower areas—Main Stage, lower elevations, along the river. Follows the wettest areas, along streams, Indian Creek, Long Tom. Zones 7, 8, 10, 3, 12, & 11. Can we make furniture out of ash trees that have been attacked? Should we be proactive? Sierra says takes 5 to 10 years for all the ash to die. Not really a good furniture tree, more for firewood. Maybe we could partner with a local mill. Ann says they're geared to an economic market, didn't think yew had any value, and there really is potential for furniture, also firewood for elders and low economic people. DJ says transporting infected firewood is one of the problems. Sierra says firewood could be used locally, not transported. Ann—also the southern part of the winery property (beyond zone 15, says Anna.) Sierra says cartography crew is working on mapping this.

Acknowledgement of resiliency & human challenges with long term planning: Anna doesn't feel we've been able to place ourselves in a the best position, as a committee, although we've known about this through three site managers. We should have been acting more like trees and less like humans. Wishes we'd taken this more seriously and had info in our documents. It's been a missed opportunity. Sierra's been working with Fair volunteers. We are getting a nursery going, sometimes things are just out of our control, enjoys working with us. Ann reminds us it was on the other side of the Rockies until last week. Steve says he built a nursery in a corner of Zenn Acres, probably now occupied by Flower Crew. We could take cuttings of willow & cottonwood. Sierra agrees, says we'll also be using some home spaces and the garden at Alice's. Kevin says we'll have to follow state guidelines on what to do with the wood. Dutch Elm wood has to go in a landfill now, assumes something like that will happen with this. We should not be moving firewood. Fair will have to find a place to store it on site. Would be good to know how many ash trees are on site. Will need good maps to make good decisions. Anna—maybe we can get some kind of proof that we've destroyed it by burning it in the sauna. Recommends Northwest Trees: Identifying & Understanding the Region's Native Trees, by Steven F. Arno and Ramona P. Hammerly. Are we more like National Wildlife Federation's Field Guide to Trees of North America, or Timber Press Guide to Gardening in the Pacific Northwest?

Sierra says ash is an upper canopy species tolerant of wet roots. Alder gets tall, not as tall as ash, riparian rather than wetlands. Cascara sometimes does OK with wet roots. We have a Willamette Valley variety of ponderosa pines. We're collecting that, and maple seeds, and other lower canopy wet root species. Steve—Alder also extracts nitrogen, like ash. Also cottonwood. Sierra says cottonwood's good where there aren't as many people, because of the pollen. Ann—should we also be including what we know about climate change—most of these trees will have a lifetime beyond ours. Anna remembers learning about how our oak savanna transitioned to predominately conifers in response to changes in human land management. Do we want prettier trees, like quaking aspens, ornamentals around the buildings we occupy? Ann says 6000 years ago was a drier, warmer time, according to Triangle Lake pollen records. Anna wants to hear more about that. Sierra added by email: we will be collecting and starting a nursery of various kinds of seeds but I am hoping to focus on trees

that are tolerant of wet roots, clay soils and are observed in the areas where the most ash trees are located. Such species include red alder (*alnus rubra*), Willamette Valley ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa var. benthamiana*), Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), interestingly white oaks (*Quercus garryana*) seem to tolerate the very wet soils we have on site in some areas, and bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*). Dennis's list is also attached. Ann has provided soil maps, and can pull another one together as needed. Will send us one that includes the Winery by January.

Anna says we're going to need help with support systems. People are not going to be happy when these trees start dying. Will be in mourning. Looking at Paxton & Lisa for help with how the board is going to help us handle the grieving process. We'll need to be cutting trees down. Paxton is impressed with the work that Sierra's doing finding replacement species. We can make ceremony about planting new trees. Steve and Bobbi Jo have done a lot of planting in Paxton's neighborhood of natives that are thriving. We should start planting now. We could mill our own trees before they get infected. Kevin says we're gathering information now. Have had OHSU and extension agents out, may get them an info booth. Should have an article in the FFN. Also wants to know how many ash trees we're talking about. Steve says thousands. Really worried about central forest in the 8, Odyssey through Community Village to the river, all will have to come down. Also Xavanadu out to the parking lot. That's a logging operation, planting trees before that won't be practical. We should be edge planting immediately. The Fair site will be altered beyond what we can imagine. Thinks we might have 3 years, unless someone moves some firewood. Robert says ash trees, because of their low tannin content, provide a food source for frogs. When we choose something to fill its niche we have to be aware of whether we can replace that. Ann says there's a stand of ash in Sesame Street childcare, across from the Sauna, behind Politics Park, whose root systems made it almost impossible to dig camas there. ODF might have grants available in a few years. They logged and chipped in Forest Grove immediately when there were only a few infected trees. We will need to have funds ready for chipping. Cutting trees prematurely will be very controversial. Resistance from Fair Family will be significant. Steve wants to know once we've identified an infected tree and dropped it, do we need to remove it? Can we let it compost on site? Sierra says we'd have less space to camp if we do that, although it would be safer to have the trees down than standing dead. Most of our camping will need to move out into the parking lots, with parking moving to the Winery. Kevin says we'll need updated maps to buried water lines. Sierra has one as of this summer.

Anna will start an article for the FFN. Will put it on the agenda to add group think for content. Marking trees on the land will start communication. Having people participate in replanting programs and adding solutions will help. Kevin has notes from the meeting this summer that are almost an article as they stand. Will send them to Jain for inclusion with LUMP notes. Ann—we can make spoons and bowls and branded ash peaches. Paxton thinks we value our oaks and maples more than the ash. Also zone 4 will also be impacted. Likes the idea of having an info booth at the Fair, and maybe a report at the annual meeting this year. Kevin will talk to the board about this. If the wood is dead, do the Emerald Ash Borers still attack it? Kevin doesn't know. Beetle brings in a fungus with them, so the wood will break down really fast, won't be very useful. Anna thinks we should look at board candidates' grasp of current issues (one candidate here is the only one who's mentioned the ash borer in her statement.) Kevin—are there zones that don't have ash? Sierra—13 & 5 have very little. Upper part of 4, but the lower parts do have them. Northern parts of winery have very little, just madrone, oak, and ponderosa pine. Steve—huge ash trees in lower 4.

Paxton says County will require an engineered bridge over the Long Tom next year.

Next LUMP Meeting Tuesday, October 11th, at the Fair office & also online 6:00 to 8:00.