

Yampa River Leafy Spurge Project

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 8th, 2026 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

In Person: Carpenter Ranch

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81345503382?pwd=INMNgSw88tX3uihlaB5iMrxSXB8q8Q.1>

1. Updates to the agenda
2. Review 2025 accomplishments (all)
3. Prep for 2026 field season (Emily S)
 - a. Bug collecting trip
 - i. Discuss possible date change
 - ii. Finalize attendees
 - iii. Logistics group is meeting after this meeting
 - b. Bug sorting (Emily S, Tamara)
 - i. Maybell campground has been reserved
 - ii. Outreach event: identify lead, marketing, other logistics
 - c. Potential release sites (all)
 - i. Any change or new sites/dates from what was presented at 1/14/26 meeting?
 - ii. Strategies for maximizing bug survival in transit
 - d. Youth outreach event (Reece)
 - i. Dates, audience, location, activities, bug source
 - e. Monitoring plan (Tamara)
 - i. List of folks who are willing to help
4. Website updates (Pete)
5. Grant administration reminders (Emily B)
6. Partner updates (all)
7. Set next meeting

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Meeting Minutes

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1. 2025 accomplishments
 - a. The group reviewed these. Pete mentioned they are up on the website now.
2. 2026 field season prep
 - a. Bug collecting trip
 - i. The group briefly discussed a possible date change, given the unprecedented warm winter/spring. John K said that he'd still like a few more weeks to evaluate how the season is going before deciding the change the date or not. The logistics group who met after the main meeting decided to reconvene on 4/24 at 1:00 to discuss.
 - ii. Attendee list for collection trip
 1. Emily Burke, Alex Faulk, Ryan Daily, Chloe Quinn, Ben Beall Sr., Roddy Beall, Pete Williams, John Kaltenbach, Jim Haskins, Austyn Haskins
 - iii. The logistics group met after the main meeting and discussed supply needs
 - b. Bug sorting
 - i. Maybell campground has been reserved, in addition to the picnic shelter that has electricity. (All reserved campsites have electricity too).
 - ii. Outreach event: identify lead, marketing, other logistics
 1. The Camblins have agreed to have a release on their property for this
 2. Alex will create a flyer for Leafy Spurge community/education bug sorting at Maybell campground for posting in mid-May at the campground store, park office, Maybell library, and Maybell post office. Alex will send Tamara the flyer and she will hang these up.
 - c. Potential release sites (all)
 - i. Tamara has been working on getting permissions from landowners. So far, we have identified the Camblins, K Diamond Ranch, State Land Board land near Juniper Hot Springs, and potentially Ray Barnes'

land (which is managed by Dale Haskins. All these properties are between Government Bridge and Juniper Hot Springs take out. Tamara is also potentially thinking of Curtis Elgin's property in Little Yampa Canyon. East Cross Mountain, Yampa River State Wildlife Area, and Dinosaur at all still question marks, depending on the number of bugs we are able to collect.

- ii. Ideally, we would release by boat, but river flows may make that impossible this year. If so, all of these locations can be accessed on foot.
- iii. We can also purchase bugs this year, as we have an account with CDA and have funds for purchasing bugs from Montana as well.
 1. Emily B will call Charissa and get us on the list for bugs.
- iv. Brief discussion on strategies for maximizing bug survival in transit
In the logistics meeting, Tamara recommended extra bags, coolers, having some sort of material between the bugs and ice to insulate them, and a different bag material to minimize bugs chewing through the bags. The logistics team will work on sourcing bags from this new material.

d. Youth outreach event

- i. Date = June 23rd
- ii. Reece from Yampatika will lead the planning of this event
- iii. Audience = 20-24 kids ages 9-13 from Yampatika and Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
- iv. Location = Loudy Simpson. (Tamara said that there isn't enough spurge left at the rest area where the event has occurred before).
- v. Bug source = John K will bring them.
- vi. Folks involved = John K, Tamara (only for planning), Emily B, and Reece. Jonathan mentioned that Andrew Dean, new weed education person with Routt County, should be involved as well (especially since Tamara says that she doesn't think Jesse Schroeder with Moffat County loves to do education events). We will also invite Chris Rhyne, since she's done the event before.
 1. Emily B will start a thread with all these folks to initiate planning
- vii. Supplies needed = monitoring kits, nets, Gatorade, snacks

- e. Monitoring plan discussion
 - i. Alex, Joan Donham, and Emily B will help Tamara with monitoring this year.
- 3. Website updates
 - a. Pete is having issues with MapItFast. Emily B will check if Field Maps comes with FOTY's subscription of Esri as a back-up method.
- 4. Partner updates
 - a. Jonathan mentioned that he continues to work with Stetson Ranch on leafy spurge and all other noxious weeds. Pete and Emily B will go out to Stetson with him on May 21 to check out the leafy spurge population there.
 - b. Jonathan also mentioned that Western Tree Mgmt purchased a drone that can spray herbicide. Has a capacity of 23 gallons.
 - c. John K mentioned that though the mountain pine beetle is native, CDA is looking at biocontrol with a predator beetle to address ponderosa pine death on the Front Range.
- 5. Next meeting = Wed, Sept 9th from 10:00-12:00 at Carpenter Ranch and via Zoom.