

**YAMPA RIVER LEAFY SPURGE PROJECT
MEETING**

**Thursday January 11, 2018
1:00pm at the Carpenter, Ranch**

Proposed Agenda

1. Introductions (5 minutes)
2. Review Agenda (5 minutes)
3. Request for Funds from Donations for Web Site Administration: Ben (5 minutes)
4. Report on the 2017 CDA Grant Interim Reports (Sept 31st & Dec 31st): Greg (5 minutes)
5. Report on the Application for a 2018 CDA Weed Fund Grant: Ben (25 minutes)
 - a. 2018 Weed Fund Application
 - b. 2018 Weed Fund Budget
 - c. Letters of Support
 - d. Next Steps:
 1. Grant Approval Date
 2. Statement of Work
6. Update and Discussion of Application for CWCB Water Reserve Supply Funds: (60 minutes)
 - a. Discussion to delay application to YWGRT to July 2018: CWCB Application Committee (Marsha, Tamara, Jessica, Ray, Ben, and Todd)
 1. Letter to Chair of YWGRT
 - b. Report on January 10th Update to YWGRT: Ray
 - c. Meeting with University of WY Prof. Dan Tekiela: Tamara
 - d. Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement with Friends of the Yampa: Ben
 - e. Next Steps
7. Other Items: (15 minutes)
 - a. Update of the Jodi Elam Project: Todd
 1. RC Parcel Map
 - b. Update on HPP Grant Application: Kris
 - c. Report on Targeted Conservation Projects: Kendall
 - d. Contact John Kaltenback for beetle releases for 2018

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, March 8th at 1:00pm
Adjourn (3:00)

Meeting Packet:

1. Agenda
2. 2018 CDA Weed Fund Application
3. 2018 CDA Weed Fund Application Budget
4. 2018 CDA Weed Fund Application Map
5. LTR to YWGRT Chair
6. Draft Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement

YAMPA RIVER LEAFY SPURGE PROJECT

January 11, 2018 1:00pm

Carpenter Ranch

Draft Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Executive Committee Present

Ray Beck	MC Commissioner
Jessica Counts	MC Weed and Pest
Tim Corrigan	RC Commissioner
Chris Rhyne	BLM Little Snake
Tamara Naumann	Dinosaur National Monument
Ben Beall	Yampa River System Legacy Partnership
Tyler Jacox	Colorado Parks and Wildlife
John Husband	Northwest CO Citizen

Advisory Committee

Marsha Daughenbaugh	Community Ag Alliance
Geoff Blakeslee	The Nature Conservancy
Cody Perry	Friends of the Yampa

Ben Beall opened the meeting at around 1:05pm. Since everyone knew each other there was no need for introductions.

Ben asked if there were any additions for the agenda. No additions or changes.

Ben asked the group for comments/suggestions regarding the agenda meeting packets. Ben stated that he thought that they were an addition to our meetings but they are an expense. He doesn't mind paying for them but if they are not needed then maybe we should go a different route. Marsh Daughenbaugh and Chris Rhyne both said that they could make the copies for later meetings.

Meeting Discussions:

First Discussion: Request for Funds from the Donations to the YRLSP for payment for the Website Administrator

Ben asked if everyone had had the opportunity to see the Donations Spread Sheet and the Thank You Letter in the meeting packet. He explained that these donations were being held by Friends of the Yampa as per the FOY/YRLSP Sponsorship Agreement approved by both the FOY and the YRLSP in 2017.

He explained to the group that he would like to pay Anne Sullivan \$200 from these donations for her work administering our website. She has reorganized the website with new buttons and downloaded maps, information, agendas etc.

Cody Perry thought that Anne was not in town but would be returning shortly.

There was a consensus from the group for Ben to withdraw funds from the FOY account and give \$200 to Anne for her past and continued work.

Task 1: Ben to touch base with Anne and offer her \$200 for her work.

Second Discussion: 2017 CDA Grant Interim Reports

Since Greg Brown was not able to make it, Ben reported that Greg and Lynn Haskins had submitted the Quarterly Interim Reports due September 31st and December 31st to CDA.

Third Discussion: 2018 CDA Weed Fund Application.

Ben reported that the CDA Application, Budget, Map and Letters of Support were submitted to CDA by John Husband and Lynn and that an email confirmation was received.

Ben thanked Marsha for her comments on the Application. He also had met with Greg Brown and Barry Castagnasso to get their input. Ben stated the he felt a little alone crafting the Application but hopefully the YRLSP will get more funding than was received in 2017.

The group reviewed the Application Budget. The main items of the grant are:

1. Request for \$10,000 to complete the third year of treatment in Tee Pee Draw.
2. Request for \$1,000 for the Private Landowner Coordinator for an agreement to be able to access 200 new acres for treatment.
3. Request for \$10,000 for RC to treat 100 +/- new acres
4. Request for \$3,500 for an educational Call to Action II video of Little Yampa Canyon.

Points of discussion were:

Ben explained that the \$1,000 request for the Private Landowner Coordinator included time to supervise and monitor the treatment of the 100 +/- new acres funded with the \$10,000 for RC Weed Program. It was done this way due to the fact the RC Weed Program due to time constraints will not be able to manage this treatment.

Jessica Counts asked if the 200 new acres to be designated by the Private Property Coordinator were only in RC. Ben thought that 100 +/- acres could be in MC. If the funding is granted the group will be able to direct Barry as to where we would like to see these acres. The second 100 +/- acres could be the acres to be treated in the application to the YWGRT/CWCB.

Ben explained to the group, that if you have time to review the Application you will see that there is an "if funded" clause before most of the objectives in the application. This "if funded" hopefully will not lead to problems as in the 2016 CDA grant where it was not worth the effort to comply with all the items included in the application.

Ben also pointed out to the group the earlier schedule for this 2018 CDA Grant. The Statement of Work will be completed by April 30th. The group discussed the prospect that this may require earlier leafy spurge treatments. How would this effect the YRLSP seasonal treatments?

Ben thanked everyone who had given him information from their budgets for Cash and In-Kind Matches. He wanted everyone to understand that he did not use all the matches submitted because we may need to use some of the matches for the upcoming YWGRT/CWCB funding request.

Ben also thanked everyone and their organizations for their Letters of Support. He pointed out that there was not a LOS from RC in the packet. Ben asked Tim Corrigan if the RCBCC had approved a LOS and if not could he see if one could be approved and submitted to CDA.

Task 2: If the YRLSP receives funding for the Private Landowner Coordinator to find 200 +/- acres for treatment, the group will need to have a discussion and direct where these acres should be.

Task 3: Jessica will contact Lara Duran, CDA, and find out the time frame for the 2018 CDA Grant i.e. end date

Task 4: Tim with the help of Greg to get a LOS to CDA for the 2018 CDA Weed Fund Grant.

Fourth Discussion: Mapping for the YRLSP

Ben pointed out two maps in the meeting packet: 1. The map presented with the 2018 CDA Weed Fund Application and 2. A parcel map of the west of Hayden Area created by the RC GIS Department for Todd Hagenbuch. He thought that the map submitted with the 2018 CDA grant was inadequate for the YRLSP long term. The parcel map with the ability of having different layers may be a solution to what the group has discussed in the past, a need for better mapping.

Tamara Naumann thought that maybe TNC could help us with mapping. She asked Geoff Blakeslee, didn't TNC staff in a conference call commit to assisting the YRLSP with mapping. Geoff thought that there had been some mention on the phone but that we need to check.

Chris also thought that the YRLSP might be able to use the resources of the BLM to help with mapping. The question arose about what would be the best way to get all the present data on treatment, leafy spurge infestations etc. in one place that could be usable and presentable to the general public.

Task 5: Tamara and Geoff will coordinate and check with TNC to see what assistance TNC could give to YRLSP for their mapping needs.

Task 6: Need to figure out how the YRLSP can access all the present data that has been submitted to CDA. Jessica can you do this?

Fifth Discussion: Little Yampa Canyon Initiatives

The Group also discussed the possibility of coordinating with the FOY for this coming season's surveys, work, new video, and mapping of leafy spurge in Little Yampa Canyon.

Cody explained that the FOY is working on an agreement with BLM to reestablish Yampa River camps in LYC this spring. They are planning a work trip in May.

Ben suggested that the YRLSP could coordinate with the FOY to further survey and map the leafy spurge infestations in LYC. Also, if the FOY will be making a video of their work maybe the YRLSP could coordinate and create a Call to Action II video from the requested funds from the 2018 CDA grant showing the infestations in LYC. Cody thought that this might be workable.

Tamara has two volunteer leafy spurge pulling trips planned for Dinosaur National Monument in 2018 on May 13th to May 18th and June 17th to June 23rd.

The group asked Cody if he could schedule the FOY work trip around these dates so that the YRLSP members could participate in the FOY trip.

There was a discussion of where and when the 2018 Show me Float would take place. It was suggested that the Float be in LYC. This would need to be a two day trip. John thought that would be difficult for guests and more expensive. John recommended that the YRLSP Float be on the Yampa from Dorsey to Lowdy Simpson. The group agreed. There was a discussion of the timing in order to take advantage of the river level. John suggested that the Float take place either Friday the 22nd of May or Friday the 8th of June.

Task 7: Cody to try and schedule the FOY LYC work trip around the DNM leafy spurge trips and the YRLSP 2018 Show Me Float

Task 8: Tamara, Cody, and John to communicate and coordinate these important Yampa River Trips so that all can assist in their objectives.

Sixth Discussion: Update to the YWGRT on the Request to Delay the YRLSP's Second Reading for CWCB Water Supply Reserve Funds

Ben informed the group that the CWCB Application Committee (Tamara, Marsha, Jessica, Ray, Todd, and Ben) had met twice using a conference call and had decided to delay the YRLSP Second Reading until July.

Ray Beck informed the group that at the YWGRT meeting the previous night he had thanked the RT for their comments and suggestions at the First Reading of the YRLSP request in September. He had told the RT members that the YRLSP had taken these comments to heart and was reworking the application request and would be coming for Second Reading in July.

At the end of his presentation he had asked the RT members if they had any questions. There was only one questions regarding how the request would change. Ray answered that the YRLSP was looking at a larger research piece.

Seventh Discussion: YWGRT/CWCB Water Reserve Supply Funds Grant Application

Tamara opened with a report of her search with CSU and U WY professors to find out if there was interest in assisting the YRLSP with the 150-mile leafy spurge infestation on the Yampa. There was little interest from CSU professors. At U WY she talked with a Prof. Dan Tekiela who is an ecologist with a background in invasive plants. She thought that Prof Tekiela would be a good fit. He was interested enough to want to visit the Yampa area.

Prof. Tekiela met with Geoff, Tamara, Barry, Jessica, Tyler and Ben on December 19th. Jessica appreciated his unbiased approach. She thought that he would bring his own thoughts including targeted grazing, remote sensing, not one fix etc.

Geoff said that TNC would be able to help with putting up a grad student on the Carpenter Ranch. This student could be available by January 2019 for the field season in 2018.

Prof. Tekiela listened to the explanations of our leafy spurge problem and took notes during the tour of various sites along the river from the YRSWA to Craig.

Tamara thought that his experience and interest in leafy spurge and the use of grad students would work for the need for research to manage the Yampa's infestation.

Tamara told the group of comments by Prof. Tekiela regarding leafy spurge infestations in Fremont County WY where the county commissioners have asked for a cost benefit analysis that would show that it is not cost effective to further spend moneys treating leafy spurge. Tamara thought that members of the YRLSP should make a trip to Fremont County (Lander is the County Seat.) to find out more about their infestation. Since Fremont County is near Colorado and contains numerous rivers with riparian habitats more people might be able to understand the threat to the Yampa and the Ag lands of Northwest Colorado.

The YRLSP can expect a report from Prof. Tekiela by the middle of February.

Ben pointed out to the group that this doesn't give the group much time in creating the application for the YWGRT/CWCB Water Supply Reserve Funds. He said that he had talked with Steve Henkemeyer, the Chair of the YWGRT Application Committee. He said that he would like to see the completed application by June 1st for the presentation in July to the YWGRT. Marsha thought this was an incorrect timeline.

With the necessity to move forward not waiting for Prof. Tekiela the group discussed some of the issues and components for the YWGRT/CWCB Grant request:

Objective: Reduce seed flow in the Yampa
Funding partners
Need for mapping
Public benefit
Need to get started developing the Power Point Presentation
Only 4 or 5 slides
Possible treatment site: SLB parcel on Fortification Creek
Connection between water quality and water quantity

The group realized that there should be another meeting before the regular meeting in March to begin to work on the grant request. Jessica and Ray suggested a meeting at

the MC Courthouse toward the end of January. A meeting was set for 1:00pm on Thursday February 1st.

Task 9: Marsha to check with Steve Hinkemeyer for the application presentation schedule for the YWGRT.

NOTE: Marsha communicated that she had talked with Steve and he said that the YRLSP “application is due at least 30 days prior to the RT Meeting which means the Leafy Spurge application will be due June 12.

There will be 30 minutes allocated on the agenda for each grant applicant at both the first and second readings. The Committee is recommending that the presentations be limited to 12-15 minutes to allow for questions and the vote.”

Task 10: Tamara to touch base with Prof. Tekiela to see if he needs any further information in order to complete his report by mid-February.

Task 11: Jessica and Ray will check to see where we can meet in the MC Courthouse on Thursday , February 1st at 1:00pm and send out an email to the YRLSP Working Group.

Task 12: Ben to send out an announcement to the Working Group members not present of the YWGRT/CWCB application brain storming session on February 1st.

Eighth Discussion: YRLSP/FOY Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement

Ben informed the group that he and Cody had met with three other members of the FOY to work on the Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement for the YWGRT/CWCB Grant funds. This committee decided to use a shortened Fiscal Sponsorship Form. There was communication back and forth and the Agreement that you have is a draft.

Cody reported that he had presented this draft Agreement to the FOY Board on January 10th and the FOY Board agreed in principal with the Agreement and would like to approve a Final Agreement at their March meeting.

Ben asked everyone to take a look at the Agreement and get back to him with any suggestions or changes. He pointed out that one of the members of the FOY Agreement Committee was a lawyer and that even though we may not need a lawyer to review this draft before approval, it may be wise. Ben asked for all comments to be to him by January 26th.

Ray said that he would get the MC attorney to take a look at the draft Agreement.

Task 13: Everyone needs to review the YRLSP/FOY Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement and get back to Ben with comments/changes by January 26th.

Task 14: Ray will ask if the MC attorney would be able to take a look at the Fiscal Agreement to see if it works for the YRLSP.

Ninth Discussion: Updates

Tyler Jacox informed the group that the HPP Grant cycle will be for 2019

Next Scheduled Meeting: March 8, 2018

Meeting Adjourned: 3:10