

**YAMPA RIVER LEAFY SPURGE PROJECT**  
**SCHEDULED MEETING**  
**Wednesday 10:00 am August 12, 2020**  
**By Zoom Video Conference**

Proposed Agenda

1. Welcome: Ben 5 minutes
2. Introductions: 5 minutes
3. Review Agenda: 5 minutes
4. 2020 Accomplishments on the Management of Leafy Spurge: 30 minutes
  - a. Collection and release of 20,000 beetles (Tamara, Tyler)
  - b. Landowner permissions to release beetles (Tamara)
  - c. Leafy Spurge mapping (Pete)
    - a. Duffy Mt to Cross Mt
    - b. Leafy spurge release sites
    - c. Yampa River State Wildlife Area
  - d. Site visit and report on presence of leafy spurge on J Quarter Circle Ranch formerly Frentress Ranch (Baili) Site Visit Report Attached
  - e. Working on science of treatments in riparian area including targeted grazing (Hannah)
  - f. Progress on ability to identify leafy spurge from satellite imagery (Chloe)
  - g. Perolis treatment plan (Jesse)
  - h. Upland combination herbicide treatments (Jesse)
  - i. Stetson parcel near Stagecoach aerial treatment (Tiffany)
  - j. YRLSP website as one source of public information (Pete)
  - k. Discovery of 3 types of LS biocontrol beetles on LS work trip in DNM (Emily)
5. Discussion of Change of Meeting Format to a Theme Based Agenda (Tamara) 30 minutes
  - a. Examples of possible themes
    1. Outreach to landowners for biocontrol field trip
    2. Organization of Show Me Float
    3. Education and Outreach with Kids
      - a. Boys and Girls Club
      - b. Work with Jacob Dewhirst (YRSP) with Hayden kids
    4. Collection and release of beetles
    5. Tepee Draw as a model for integrated management and monitoring
    6. Results of U Wy research into integrated management of LS in riparian areas
    7. Results of U WY research into the identifying of LS from satellite imagery

6. Understanding the YRLSP Mission (Ben, Group) 20 minutes
  - a. Letterhead: "... working together to establish an effective program of integrated management for leafy spurge..."
  - b. Website: "... engages landowners, agencies, educators and organizations—working together to establish effective programs of integrated management for invasive leafy spurge..."
  - c. Important points where the YRLSP is engaging and assisting landowners, agencies, educators and organizations:
    1. Initiating and fostering the type of research currently being conducted through the engagement of the U of Wyo.
    2. Regional (i.e., multicounty jurisdiction) mapping of leafy spurge infestations in the Yampa River riparian habitats.
    3. Regional biological control collection and dissemination across the Yampa Basin.
    4. Regional, long-term biological control monitoring.
    5. Community outreach in the form of the Show Me Floats, kids programs, and biological control field trips.
7. Update on Grants and Funding Sources 10 minutes
  - a. FOTY Donations Account (Lindsey)
  - b. CWCB Grant (Tamara)
8. Partner Plans and Additional Updates for 2020 Leafy Spurge Management (Group) 10 minutes
  - a. Routt County Weed Program
  - b. Moffat County Weed and Pest Management
  - c. Colorado Parks and Wildlife
  - d. Yampa River State Park
  - d. BLM
  - e. CO State Land Board
  - f. NRCS
  - g. Dinosaur Nat Monument
  - h. Friends of the Yampa
  - i. MC CSU Extension
  - j. RC CSU Extension
9. Other (Group) 5 minutes

Next Scheduled Meeting:

**YRLSP Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, October 14th at the Carpenter Ranch

Proposed Adjournment (12:00pm)

**Meeting Packet:** Proposed Agenda, West of Hayden Report, YRLSP Goals for 2020

# **YAMPA RIVER LEAFY SPURGE PROJECT**

**Wednesday, August 12, 2020**

**Zoom Video Conference**

**Final Meeting Notes**

## **ATTENDEES:**

### **Working Group Members Present**

Ray Beck, Moffat County Commissioner  
Ben Beall, Routt County Citizen  
Tamara Naumann, Moffat County Citizen  
Pete Williams, Moffat County Citizen  
Tiffany Carlson, Routt County Weed Program  
Baili Foster, NRCS Steamboat Springs  
Tyler Jacox, CO Parks and Wildlife  
Geoff Blakeslee, Routt County Citizen  
John Husband, Moffat County Citizen  
Emily Spenser, Dinosaur National Monument

### **Guests and Interested Parties:**

Teresa Audesirk, Routt County Citizen

Ben Beall opened the meeting at 10:05. He thanked everyone for participating and asked for their help with the Zoom meeting. Dan Tekiela could not host the meeting due to his schedule. Ben said that he was recording the meeting.

He announced that Tim Corrigan had contacted him and said that he would not be able to participate due to a meeting of the Routt County Public Health Board.

He asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Ben shared the Proposed Agenda on the screen. He had made a couple changes to the agenda: 1. Baili Foster was in the field and her Report on the site visit to J Quarter Circle Ranch is now the first 2020 Accomplishment in Item #4. 2: Teresa Audesirk wanted to report on her attempt to get an article on the collection and release of leafy spurge beetles in the Steamboat Pilot. This is item #7.

Ben explained that today's agenda is different from other agendas. This change was because of: 1. His questions about should the YRLSP work directly with landowners to manage leafy spurge and 2. Conversations with Tamara Naumann and Pete Williams, they had discussed that the YRLSP may want to go to a Theme based agenda where one Theme is discussed each meeting.

In thinking about this possible change he said that it would be important to discuss the YRLSP 2020 Accomplishments, Agenda Item #4. It was thought that a discussion of the 2020 Accomplishments would lead into this Theme based agenda change.

Also, this brings up questions about the YRLSP Mission, Item #6. Ben thought that it important for any organization to review their Mission.

Ben shared on the screen with the Group the YRLSP 2020 Goals. He pointed out that the YRLSP had accomplished many of the goals established at the January 2020 meeting. The goals with asterisks are part of the CWCB Grant postponed due to the coronavirus.

## **2020 Accomplishments**

### **First Discussion: Site Visit and the Report on Monitoring the Leafy Spurge Infestations on the J Quarter Circle Ranch (Report included in agenda packet)**

Baili reported that she, Barry Castagnasso and Ben had visited the site on September 7<sup>th</sup>. This was part of the West of Hayden 115+/- acres that Don Stinton and Barry had sprayed for three years. She related that there were obvious changes in the leafy spurge infestation from before it was treated. Barry was able to explain what he had seen in 2018 and 2019 treatments. There were smaller and fewer plants with scattered flowering patches on the islands there were more patches of leafy spurge of larger size.

The purpose of the site visit was to salvage data for monitoring. With the visit it became obvious that there was no way to establish baseline data.

Baili thought it important to work with the owner, Bruce Johnson, to manage the leafy spurge infestations.

Ben related that Tamara and Pete had visited a legacy beetle release site just downstream from the site visit and had found beetles. Beetles were still present and active.

Ben asked Baili if there is any way to judge if the small non-flowering plants were caused by beetles or the 3-years of chemical treatments.

Baili said that she is not a beetle expert.

Tamara said that it is the same issue with the biocontrol beetles. If there is no before and after data it is hard to determine what the cause is. With her experience the signal of the presence of beetles is smaller non-flowering leafy spurge plants in the matrix with some flowering plants and clumps. If there are no beetles there tends to be larger clumps.

Tamara asked Ben if he had received a reply from Bruce Johnson to meet and discuss treatment options. Ben said that he had not received a reply but would follow up.

This brought up a discussion about who would be responsible for working with Bruce Johnson.

Tamara thought that the YRLSP as a volunteer organization doesn't have the ability to develop treatment plans. The YRLSP would have to apply for grant funds. She thought that our agency partners would be best to develop treatment plans.

Baili responded that NRCS has this capability. She suggested that the YRLSP data be stored on Google Drive or the ESRI Collector app. If the data was accessible to everyone this data could be used by organizations who would be developing plans or monitoring.

Ben thought that the role of the YRLSP in helping landowners might be a discussion for the YRLSP if we go to a theme based agenda.

Ben reported that one of the recommendations in the Site Visit Report was to present the Report to the Routt County Weed Board. He made this presentation on July 16<sup>th</sup> and told the Weed Board that the YRLSP would not be able to complete the monitoring and would not use the \$2210 approved for the monitoring. Also, Ben said that he would contact Commissioner Corrigan and get on the RCBCC agenda to discuss the Site Visit Report.

**Task 1: Ben to follow up with Bruce Johnson to see if he would like to meet regarding future leafy spurge treatments.**

**Task 2: Ben to contact Tim Corrigan to get on the RCBCC agenda to present the JQC Ranch Site Visit Report.**

**Task 3: Group to discuss if in the new agenda format that a meeting theme should be The Relationship of the YRLSP in the Development of Treatment Plans for Landowners.**

## **2. Second Discussion: 2020 Collection and Release of Beetles**

Tamara reported that she, John Kaltenbach (CDA), Ben, Teresa, and Pete had visited the Front Range in June. One day was spent collecting beetles, a second day processing the beetles. YRLSP returned with a total of 13,000 (13k) beetles for release in the Yampa Basin. The following day, with help from Tyler Jacox (CPW), the group released 10,000 (10k) of the beetles in the flood plain on the Earle Oxbows south of US 40 just west of the YRSWA.

Tamara explained to the Group that bugs were discovered on all the release sites on Earle's during the collection of site baseline data before the releases. She and Tyler were able to see the effects of the existing beetles: small non-flowering plants with scattered plants.

The next day, with the help of Chris Rhyne (BLM), Tamara and Pete released 1,000 (1k) beetles on Fortification Creek. That afternoon Tamara and Pete then released the remaining 2,000 (2k) on the Macintyre property near Maybell.

In July, Tyler was also able to purchase 10,000 (10k) beetles for \$1,400 from Montana for release on the YRSWA, after some confusion over regulations regarding the importation of

*Apthona* into Colorado. It was only after John Kaltenbach (CDA) called the vendor that the beetle order was sent. Tyler thanked Tamara and Pete for releasing these beetles on the YRSWA.

Pete shared a map of all these beetle release sites. The map also included the releases on the YRSWA in 2019. Pete explained that he had not yet posted this map on the YRLSP website, out of concern that the map did not acknowledge CPW's purchase of the beetles. Tyler said that the map looks great.

Ben asked if there was any information on how many beetles should be on a site to manage leafy spurge.

Tamara said that there is not a number. There is a coarse scale but mainly success is when the beetles are fully established. The standards are:

1. The release of 1,000 beetles per site
2. If there are beetles present after two years, a Good Site, and
3. If there are beetles after five years, a Sustainable Site.

Ben asked how do we show landowners that beetles can manage leafy spurge.

Tamara reiterated that the YRLSP is not prepared to do a study. Biocontrol is not an eradication strategy. The YRLSP should plan on using field trips to help landowners to see what we see with beetles present in infestations.

Teresa reported that she has been in contact with Derek Mialo of the Steamboat Pilot for an article on the collection and release of the beetles. She shared some of Pete's photos, other information on leafy spurge and the YRLSP with Derek. She thought that the article might be in the Pilot next Saturday. The Group thanked Teresa for doing this. It will be great PR not only for the beetles but for the YRLSP.

Ben asked Teresa if she could get Derek to share the article with the Craig Daily Press.

**Task 4: Pete to post the Leafy Spurge Release Map to the YRLSP website**

**Task 5: Teresa to see if the article can be shared with the Craig Daily Press.**

### **Third Discussion: 2020 Leafy Spurge Mapping**

Pete reported to the Group that the YRLSP had mapped 60 miles of the Yampa River from Hayden to Duffy Mt in 2019 and 50 miles from Duffy Mt to East Cross Mt in 2020 (minus a 5 mile reach that will be mapped in 2021).

Pete said that he had always thought that to complete the mapping project the river reach from East Cross to Dinosaur National Monument should be done. However from looking at the maps most of this reach is owned by Cross My Ranch, for which we don't have permission. If we get permission it could get done.

Pete also has been working to map the infestations on the YRSWA.

In early July Pete and Tamara visited the Camilletti property upstream from Pebble Beach to monitor a legacy leafy spurge beetle release site. This property includes large areas of infestation. Camilletti had given permission over the phone. Beetles were present and Pete mapped the infestation. The YRLSP does not have formal permission to include this mapping on the website. Tamara suggested that someone just call since he never returned the mailed permission form.

John Husband said that this has been his experience with Camilletti.

Tamara also said that Billy Mack had changed his mind about potential future beetle releases, and gave permission for access for follow-up beetle monitoring of a legacy release site. Beetles were present and there was one infestation that would be a good future release site.

Pete and Tamara also visited Tepee Draw with Chris. Beetles were present and Pete was able to map the infestations. Tamara said that the infestations are greatly reduced from what appears in the original photos of the site.

Tamara reported that she had visited and mapped three other legacy release sites, all in the Yampa River riparian areas. These were the last of the unmonitored legacy sites adjacent to the Yampa. All other legacy sites are upland sites, which are out of the YRLSP priority area.

Pete said that he is in the process of updating all the 2019 mapping with the new information. These and all the 2020 maps will be put on the website.

Pete explained in answer to Baili's question about putting the YRLSP maps and data on Google Drive that it would still take someone to manage the addition of new data. The YRLSP maps are available to the public on our website. The collected YRLSP data is stored in a single database, which is portable and could be made available on a public drive such as Google. The YRLSP already makes information and data available to Dan and Chloe via Google Drive for the U WY research. Pete noted that the data is in ESRI shapefile format, which is generally accessible to researchers, but less so for the general public.

**Task 6: Tamara or Pete to call Camilletti to get permission to post his maps on the YRLSP website.**

#### **Fourth Discussion: 2020 Update and Revisions of Website**

Pete reported that he is in the process of reorganizing the YRLSP website. He thinks that the existing menu of Research, Events, and Grants would be better if changed to highlight the YRLSP's specific projects. This would more readily showcase the accomplishments and mission of the YRLSP.

The new Projects menu would include: University of Wyoming Research, Leafy Spurge Mapping, Biocontrol, Show Me Floats, Youth and Outreach, and Upcoming Events. The new projects menu will also integrate the maps into each relevant project discussion, rather than segregating them in a separate menu.

Pete thought that with these changes our website will be an even more viable way to communicate the YRLSP message.

Pete asked everyone if they run across an article or information on leafy spurge to send it to him and he will put it on the website. He asked Teresa to make sure that she sends him article from the Steamboat Pilot Today.

Pete described the value of the website as an easily accessible source of leafy spurge information. He pointed out that when Lindsey Marlowe (Friends of the Yampa) had given the State of the Yampa at the 2020 FOTY Yampa River Fest she had given out the YRLSP website address ([yampariverleafyspurgeproject.com](http://yampariverleafyspurgeproject.com)), and mentioned that it was a great site. Pete said that website hits had noticeably increased after Lindsey's comments.

Ben asked Pete if there are any comparisons with website hits from a year or so. Pete said that when he last checked that during a 7-day period there are about 20 hits and 12 are unique visitors. Pete thought that this was a good number of hits.

Ben thanked Pete for all his work on the website.

**Task 7: Teresa to get the Steamboat Today article to Pete so he can post it to the website.**

### **Fifth Discussion: Update on the 2020 University of Wyoming Research for the CWCB Grant**

Ben reported that in his communications with Dan Tekiela, Dan had told him that Hannah Kuhns had recently visited the four CWCB Integrated Management Research Sites.

Tamara said that Hannah had visited the sites on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of July. Hannah is in the process of compiling her data.

Ben said that he had hoped that Chloe Mattilio would be a participant today to discuss her satellite imagery project. Tamara reported that Dan had told her that the imagery project was progressing.

## **Sixth Discussion: Update of 2020 County Weed Program Projects**

Moffat County Weed and Pest:

Tamara reported that Jesse Schroeder was working with Perolis to develop a comprehensive treatment plan for leafy spurge and other weeds on Four Mile Creek. He is also working with Corteva to see how some of their new chemicals might work.

Routt County Weed Program:

Tiffany Carlson said that the leafy spurge infestation on the Stetson Ranch near Stagecoach had been treated by aerial spraying. She reported that the new owner, Laura Woods, was eager to address the leafy spurge and other weeds. Tiffany had talked with Don Stinton and he told her that he is going to visit the site and spray missed leafy spurge patches.

## **Seventh Discussion: 2020 Dinosaur National Monument Accomplishments**

Emily Spencer said that due to the coronavirus closures, DNM only had one leafy spurge work trip.

This was also the first year that she had attempted to collect leafy spurge beetles. Emily reported that she had found three biocontrol beetles and hawk moths in patches of leafy spurge that had been around for a long time, downstream from Tepee Draw at Ponderosa, and in Island Park.

Emily said that DNM is reevaluating how to measure leafy spurge in the future. If we continue to pull all leafy spurge the bugs may not have enough to eat. We may just pull flowering leafy spurge plants to reduce seed flow.

In the DNM plans for 2021 Emily said that she would like to collect and release bugs from the Front Range. She has started to remap the infestations using Pete's DNM maps from 2018. She wants to stop at each site to collect new data: size, density of infestations etc.

Emily said that she had noticed smaller plants in the infestations below Tepee Draw even where they didn't find any bugs. Tamara thought that the smaller plants might be due to many years of hand pulling.

John Husband said that he had seen over a number of years this same indication of smaller plants. John said that at least hand pulling reduces seed production.

Emily stated that there are at least 18 to 20 long-term sites downstream of Tepee and many smaller sites which exploded after the 2011 flood. She is not sure if hand pulling has made a difference.

Pete suggested that while hand pulling may not appear to have made a difference in the size of the smaller sites Emily was referring to, it was still possible that hand pulling was reducing the seed load, and so helping to reduce further infestation downstream.

Tamara said that hand pulling does make a difference, using the example of Tepee Draw. Twenty years ago spurge-pulling efforts were never able to get all the way to the DNM boundary while collecting 20 grain bags of leafy spurge plants. In 2017 only 3 or 4 bags were collected between the river and the boundary. Tamara thought that pulling is a viable strategy to stop the explosion after the 2011 flood, as we wait for a biocontrol population to become established.

Pete also thought that today there is considerably less of a seed source than in the past from the infestations on BLM lands in upper Tepee Draw. This could also be impacting the quantity of leafy spurge downstream in the DNM portions of Tepee Draw.

Tamara added that not only were bugs released on the BLM lands above Tepee Draw but it was also sprayed. She said that she is more comfortable today with integrating chemical treatments and beetles.

### **Eight Discussion: Proposal to Change the Future Meeting Format to a Theme Based Agenda**

Ben thought that the previous accomplishments leads right into why a theme based agenda might work.

Tamara said that it seems that people like to participate in what interests them. With 6 meetings a year it may not be productive to discuss the YRLSP plans and updates. It might be more productive to plan each meeting to have a single theme which says this theme is for you.

Ben wanted everyone to know that this proposal needs a response from everyone.

Teresa said that a meeting with a theme of biocontrol would interest her. She added that there could be other themes at the same meeting.

John didn't like the idea. He thought that there would be a lot more meetings. There would need to be a meeting to discuss each project. If we want to stay informed we need to understand all parts of the YRLSP.

Pete suggested that a hybrid agenda would work. We continue with our regular meeting agendas but focus on one theme. When we send out the agenda we could advertise that the focus would be on a certain topic.

Tamara pointed that in 2019 she had had a Biocontrol and Youth and Engagement meeting every alternate month from the regular Group meetings, which was attended by those who were involved with that project.

Also Tamara thought that a power point presentation by Chris on the history of the Tepee Draw infestation could be a topic, with its important leafy spurge management lessons as we had discussed earlier. This would be an example of a meeting theme that would benefit all and we could forego other topics at that meeting.

John could see that maybe we should use sub-committees i.e. for the Show Me Float.

Ben and John agreed that maybe a hybrid agenda would work. Tamara said that she was fine with that but would like the YRLSP to focus on the most important themes.

**Task 8: Ben after talking to Working Group Members to develop an agenda for the next YRLSP meeting taking into account the desire to focus on our important themes.**

**Task 9: Ben to talk to Chris and set a meeting where a power point presentation of Tepee Draw could be presented.**

**Ninth Discussion: Discussion with MC Commissioner Ray Beck regarding Moffat County's budgeting of Funds for the YRLSP**

Ray thanked the Working Group for all the work on leafy spurge and asked if there was a need for funds for the YRLSP to continue to address leafy spurge.

Tamara updated what had been discussed at our June meeting. The funds budgeted by MC for 2020 would not be needed. The funds would have been needed but various activities had to be canceled due to the coronavirus. Tamara thought that it best to turn these funds back to MC where they are most needed due to the impact of the coronavirus.

She thought that we had enough funds in our FOTY/YRLSP Donations Account to cover the expenses for the 2021 Show Me Float.

Ben said that he had talked with Lindsey Marlowe and that there were no new donations and that the account balance was \$1305.21.

Ray offered to roll over the \$1400 budgeted in 2020 to 2021 and asked Tamara what would be needed. She recommended \$1000. Ray said that after the first of the year that the YRLSP could invoice this amount. Tamara reminded Ray that the funds would be invoiced by FOTY and be held until needed.

Ray also wanted everyone to know that Moffat County and the City of Craig are rebuilding the boat launch site at Loudy Simpson along with other projects. It will be similar to the launch at the YRSP. It should be ready in 30 to 60 days

Tamara thanked Ray for all his work on the YRLSP and said that we will miss you. Ray said that the YRLSP was important and that we need to continue to fight.

**Task 10: Tamara to work with Ray during the MC 2021 budget process and to be available to answer any question regarding funds that may be budgeted for 2021.**

### **Tenth Discussion: Understanding the YRLSP Mission**

Ben referred the Group back to the previous discussions as important background for the discussion of the YRLSP mission. He read the Mission Statement from the YRLSP website. The YRLSP “.....engages landowners, agencies, educators and organizations – working together to establish effective programs of integrated management for invasive leafy spurge.”

Ben said the basic question in this discussion is the one that we discussed in the Site Visit to the J Quarter Circle Ranch item.

Is the YRLSP basically a research and outreach organization? Or are we an organization that creates plans and projects to manage leafy spurge?

Ben asked the Group if there was a conflict between what the YRLSP is doing and the existing Mission Statement.

Geoff Blakeslee thought that the Mission Statement did not capture the need for the organization to foster a plan for leafy spurge management. He saw the YRLSP as coordinating a planning effort.

Tamara suggested that there was no way to establish a management plan unless we have maps. From her experience in DNM it was only with mapping that she could get funds to address weeds. The YRLSP needs to take the tortoise approach. We can help our partners, NRCS and the County Weed Programs, to do their work, which is creating specific management plans for landowners.

Using the example of the Maybell outreach meeting, she highlighted the work of partners. Kendal Smith, NRCS, who helped with funds and organization of the Maybell outreach meeting, was an important part of this outreach to landowners. If the YRLSP through their outreach can get landowners interested then they will ask for help from our partners.

Tamara added that what we do is overall coordination and outreach. Without the scientific underpinnings there can be no plan. She said that the real question was how can we support our partner's to do their work.

Tamara asked Tiffany how she saw the YRLSP working for the RC Weed Program.

Tiffany responded that we all have roles. No one has the perfect solution. There is a need for an organization where the partners have different perspectives. She said that she agrees with Tamara that the role of the YRLSP is helping the other partners with research and information. She is looking forward to see the results from the research from University of WY, especially the possibility of using spatial data to identify and manage leafy spurge.

John reiterated that the YRLSP is basically a volunteer organization, with everyone as the mission statement says, working together with different entities doing their part.

Pete added that a mission statement should be a general statement not a comprehensive list of projects. In thinking about this agenda item he created the list of projects listed in the agenda (which is still not a comprehensive list of what the YRLSP is doing). In doing so, he realized that the website needed to be reorganized to highlight the variety of projects in which the YRLSP is engaged.

Pete emphasized that the role of the YRLSP is not to be a county weed program. The YRLSP needs to take a regional approach and do what no other organization or partner can do. An example is the YRLSP biocontrol efforts.

Tamara picked up on the biocontrol monitoring project and added that this is a niche that the YRLSP can do and right now no one else is doing it. The science says that the bugs need to be augmented in the riparian areas in order to create sustainable populations. If we can continue with biocontrol for 3 or 4 years, increasing the bugs in the riparian areas and educating private landowners, then the YRLSP could hand this project over to the county weed programs. The county weed programs would then have nurseries where landowners could collect beetles for their properties.

Pete added that the YRLSP is accomplishing great things in the biocontrol project. Between 1989 and 2017 we have records of about 78,000 (78k) beetles released on about 50 legacy beetle sites in Routt and Moffat Counties. The YRLSP, in coordination with its partners, released 23,000 (23k) beetles in 2020 alone. The YRLSP-sponsored releases for 2019 and 2020 combined have been about 30,000 (30k) beetles, which is roughly a 38% increase to the total number of beetles released throughout the previous three decades. The 2020 releases accomplished our goal of putting a big influx of beetles into the system.

Geoff wanted to congratulate everyone on all the work especially the mapping and biocontrol.

### **Eleventh Discussion: Other Items**

1. Next meeting: There was a question about whether the next meeting would be virtual or in person. Tamara would like the meeting to be in person and in a location where Chris Rhyne could show a power point on the progress of the management of leafy spurge on BLM lands in Tepee Draw.
2. Emily suggested that at the next meeting we should try and set the 2021 dates for the YRLSP events so there wouldn't be any scheduling conflicts.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

**YRLSP Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, October 14th at the Carpenter Ranch

Meeting Adjourned: 12:10