



Columbia Gorge CWMA General Meeting Minutes

January 21st 2026; 11:55 AM – 12:45 PM

1:00 Welcome and Introductions

All

- Welcome our New Coordinator: Courtney Comer!

1:10 2026 Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop

Emily

- Register now!

1:20 Steering Committee Voting

All

- Election Results:
 - **Oregon Representative (2 yrs.)-Brendan Fordyce**
 - **Washington Representative (2yrs.)-Ethan Coggins**
 - **Washington Representative (1 yr.)-Nathan Goodman**
 - **At-Large Representative (2 yrs.)-Brad Mead**
 - **At-Large Representative (1 yr.)-Scott Susi**
- CGCWMA Steering Committee webpage will be updated with the winner's information before the next meeting.

1:35 2026 CWMA Calendar

Brendan

- General Meetings on January 21st, April 22nd, August 26th, and October 28th
- Check your calendar to make sure you have added dates.
- Email Courtney if you need help getting the google calendar or outlook integration.

1:45 National Core Pesticide Applicator's Manual-Spanish Translation

Kris Schaadel

- There is a need for clear and concise language in Spanish translations of the National Core Pesticide Applicator's Manual and exam. Providing an accurate translation:
 - Removes trickiness surrounding certain wording

- Provides a consensus on terminology
- Oregon in the past has not adopted changes to the manual or exam but will now adopt changes to the English and Spanish manuals and exams.
- Cuts to EPA funding in 2025 temporarily put translation of the manual on hold
- Different organizations and conservation districts helped to fund the translation of the manual. Plans have been made to provide it free nationally.
 - Print run will potentially be available for distribution in June or July of this year.

1:55 Funding/Misc.

All

- Brendan will be finishing 2025 report soon so that funding request letters can be sent out.
 - Talking point: it may be helpful to have a specific amount listed on the letters, as well as an explanation of how those funds will be used.
 - Talking point: it may be helpful to determine how much \$ needs to be raised and dividing that by the number of partners willing to donate to determine an average donation amount needed per partner.
- Courtney is rounding up signed MOUs for the 2025-2029 agreement; partners with missing MOUs should be emailed soon.
- Federal shakeup may mean additional funding needs to be sought from other sources.

2:00 Partner Updates

All

- (**Chehalis Basin CWMA**) Sophia Sherman-Mentioned 5 new additions to the Washington State Noxious Weed List. If any partners want to receive updates on the Chehalis Basin area, they can email Courtney C. or Brendan
- (**USFS GP**) Megan Chapman-Has partnered with both Klickitat and Skamania County to treat invasives on Forest Service land in the Gifford Pinchot.
- (**Hood River SWCD**) Kris Schaedral-Started back up agricultural worker protection trainings, including: Spanish-language horticulture safety training and respirator fit test in March, finishing the Spanish-language worker protection handbook mid-April, and Spanish for orchard owners.
- (**Deschutes CWMA**) Dean Dark-Finishing up grant writing and working on Tree of Heaven treatments; getting ready for next spray season. Targeting rush skeleton weed to prevent it from traveling further south.

- (**Wasco SWCD**) Scott Susi-Figuring out where historic weed sites are in Wasco County. Working to have county name them as the designated weed entity and getting a weed board and weed list. Currently tackling ravenna grass and yellow flag iris along the Columbia river. (Uses aquatic triclopyr, “Tricera” on YFI, as well as imazapyr).
- (**Columbia Land Trust**) Brad Mead-Performing dormant-season blackberry treatment. Tracking/treating butter and eggs in the Hood River area.
- (**Clackamas SWCD**) Sam Leininger-Sending out recruitment notices for seasonal technicians.
- (**Clackamas SWCD**) Brendan Fordyce-Preparing for 4 County CWMA’s Pull Together. Making plans for SWCD treatments in the spring and helping to transition duties to new CGCWMA Facilitator. Gearing up for funding agreement with Portland Water Bureau for common weed work. Looking to do air gaping of ivy with coordinators, treating yellow archangel and spurge laurel.
- (**OPRD-retired**) John Cowan-Working with Rosy Sandy to do outreach with magnet-school kids in natural resources. Talked to Emily from Skamania County NWCP about rappelling for spurge laurel.
- (**USFS MH**) Christina Mead-Continuing work on south end of the district, including mapping houndstongue and tansy. Have started some spring surveys. Currently working on a project along FSR 48 controlling medusa head and ventenata. Got some in-house herbicide, will potentially spray in the upcoming year.
- (**Yakama Nation Fisheries**) Jeanette Burkhardt-Project on perennial tributary, have a grant to do restoration work. The creek in the project area has fresh water mussels, so they are trying to implement low-tech invasives work to re-engage the flood plain.
- (**USACE**) Mason Scharfe-Building a treatment calendar to see what weed populations they want to hit; prepping for field season. Found a big patch of Scotch broom around some industrial sites.
- (**USACE**) Evan Sobel-Utilizing Skamania work crew and Youth Corps, doing a pulse check on bio control agents.
- (**Hood River SWCD**) Cheryl Rice-Oregon State Weed Board grant for garlic mustard in Parkdale. They may start to transfer from garlic mustard to false brome as the latter has become a massive problem. Jed Arnold was appointed as a voting member for a two-year term on the Oregon invasive species council.

- **(DNR Natural Areas)** Ethan Coggins-Starting on the Dalles Mountain buttercup monitoring, will work on a medusa head project in the summer.
- **(OPRD)** McKenzie Lovelace-Trying to plan first treatment season, last treatment season was for surveying and data point collection. They have seen Italian aurum popping up early and have been workshopping solutions. Have noted yellow flag iris at mirror lake.
- **(Hood River County)** Matt Jordan-Keeping an eye out for false brome.
- **(Western Invasives Network)** Courtney Gattuso-Got in touch with Spokane to try and get a CWMA started in that area. Helping Mid and Northcoast CWMA to host trainings. Has been asked by the Southcoast chapter of the Native Plant Society to help install boot brushes at natural areas.
- **(Skamania County NWCP)** Emily Stevenson-Has been treating shiny geranium and putting down pre-emergent. Helping to get the new Education and Outreach Specialist up to speed and working on the reports for last season. Planted native plants in the Gifford Pinchot NF through a grant funded by the National Wild Turkey Federation.

3:00 **Adjourn**

Next CWMA General Meeting

April 22nd; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM