



Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Meeting Minutes

February 17th, 2026; 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

10:00 AM Welcome

All

- Attendance:
 - Courtney Comer (Facilitator)
 - Emily Stevenson (Fiscal Admin.)
 - Brad Mead (At-Large Rep.)
 - John Cowan (Oregon Rep.)
 - Brendan Fordyce (Oregon Rep.)
 - Nathan Goodman (Washington Rep.)
 - Ethan Coggins (Washington Rep.)

10:05 AM New Member Introductions

All

- Introducing new members
 - **Scott Susi** – At Large Rep. (1 year) – Wasco Soil and Water Conservation District
 - **Brad Mead** – At Large Rep. (2 years) – Columbia Land Trust
 - **Nathan Goodman** – Washington Rep. (1 year) – Klickitat County Noxious Weed Control Board
 - **Brendan Fordyce** – Oregon Rep. (2 years) – Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District



10:20 AM Steering Committee Chair Voting

All

Chairs keep meeting on track, run general meetings, draft funding letters and sign anything that needs to be signed.

Brad Mead and Ethan Coggins were nominated to be co-chairs by Courtney Gattusso.

Motion passed to move forward to vote on the co-chairs verbally. The vote to appoint both chairs was unanimous.

The new co-chairs are as follows:

- **Chair 1-Brad Mead**
- **Chair 2-Ethan Coggins.**

10:35 AM MOU/Annual Report Check

All

- What MOUs do we have?
 - **Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District**
 - **ODA**
 - **Portland Water Bureau**
 - **USFWS-Ridgefield NWRC**
 - **Army Corps of Engineers**
 - **East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District**
 - **Friends of the Columbia Gorge**
 - **USFS-Mount Hood National Forest**
 - **USFS-Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area**
 - **Underwood Conservation District**
 - **WA DNR-Natural Areas Program**
 - **Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District**
 - **Hood River County**
 - **Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District**
 - **The Nature Conservancy**
 - **Skamania County Noxious Weed Program**
 - **Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development**
 - **Columbia Land Trust**



- What MOUs do we still need?
 - **WSDA** - talking it over (contacted by Emily S.)
 - **State Weed Board** - talking it over (contacted by Emily S.)
 - **USFS Gifford Pinchot** – have not heard back (contacted by Emily S.)
 - **Klickitat County NWCB** – will send MOU to Nathan G.
 - **Oregon State Parks** – John C. to follow up with contacts.
 - **BLM** – Courtney G. working with District Botanist to see if they will sign a CWMA or separate MOU.

- 2025 Annual Report Update
 - Some sections still need to be done.
 - **Need a bio from the new Facilitator**
 - **An introduction letter from the 2025 Steering Chairs**
 - **Sam L. is finishing the financial report**

- Financial
 - Discussed current donors and funds.
 - **May be beneficial to contact the Center for Ecodynamic Restoration (CEDR) to see if they would consider signing the MOU.**
 - **Consider making a document that lists contributing organizations and their donation amounts to give perspective donors a ballpark of a suggested contribution.**
 - **Find out if a letter for funding went out to donors last year either with the MOU or invoicing.**

10:45 AM ISEP

All

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- What should Courtney talk about during her intro?
 - New Steering Members and Co-Chairs, the new Education and Outreach chair, transition into Facilitator role
 - Field Day
 - Will talk more about selecting a site at the next E&O meeting.
 - **Can highlight what it is in general (i.e., partners in the CGCWMA get together to view different projects being done within the CWMA's boundary)**
 - Need for funding-verbiage?



- Can talk in general about the need for funding and what it is used for (Facilitator position, events, E&O materials and projects such as the boot brush stations)
- Maybe have someone walk around during this portion to collect the contact information of interested parties/perspective donors
- Still need to:
 - Figure out snacks and refreshments

10:55 AM Adjourn

All

Meeting called to adjourn at 10:50am.

Next CWMA Steering Meeting

March 25, 2026; 11:30