

Clallam County Noxious Weed Control Board
July 22, 2025
Minutes

LOCATION: Clallam County Courthouse, Commissioner's Meeting Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Adolphsen, Fred Grant, Bruce Paul, Dan Peacock, Roberta Stoneman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Clea Rome (ex-officio)

STAFF PRESENT: Christina St John (coordinator), Sam Fischbein (weed inspector)

GUESTS / AGENCIES REPRESENTED: None

MEETING TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS:

Fred Grant called the meeting to order at 4:33pm.

ADOPT MINUTES:

Roberta Stoneman made a motion to adopt the April minutes as drafted. Bruce Paul seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor, none opposed.

Board Updates/Correspondence:

Dan Peacock and the Friends of Lake Crescent met with the National Park Service to discuss Scotch broom along East Beach Rd. Christina mentioned that the NPS botanist reached out to her to collaborate to treat the Scotch broom out there. Dan Peacock discussed maintenance concerns along East Beach Rd.

Bruce Paul spoke about the tansy ragwort infestation around Lake Crescent. Christina will speak with the different organizations involved in maintaining that section of Hwy 101. Sam spoke about her time treating Lake Crescent when she worked for Olympic National Park.

Christina spoke briefly about the new WSDA Prohibited Plants list.

Reports:

Staff Reports

Sam spoke about her inspection work, including the number of notifications sent, site tours, sites monitored and the private parcels where we are treating rare noxious weeds. Christina spoke a bit about shiny geranium, a rare noxious weed that the program has found on a few parcels in 2025. The program applied for and was awarded a grant through WSNWCB to help private landowners treat shiny geranium. Other counties on the Peninsula are seeing an increase in shiny geranium infestations this year. Roberta Stoneman asked a question about what plants shiny geranium will kill and

Christina discussed what she has seen and heard about shiny geranium's effects on the surrounding vegetation.

Christina mentioned that Sam has been assisting with other programs. Christina made job offers to two people and the prospective employees are going through the County's background check. Christina then spoke about different talks that her and Sam have given to different organizations over the last few months.

Christina spoke about the Lake Management District, specifically about getting a new diver to assist Cathy in manually removing milfoil and starting a conversation with WDFW to put up signage about invasive plants at their boat dock. For Olympic National Forest work, the program will be focusing on the Jimmy-Come-Lately watershed in August. The program treated yellow loosestrife at the Snider Work Camp.

The program hosted the spring Olympic Invasive Working Group, which was well attended. The program applied for and was awarded money for the next round of the WSDA knotweed program, though staffing issues at WSDA as delayed receiving the contract. The program has reached out to landowners, specifically in Ennis Creek, to get permission to treat knotweed.

For the work on County Roads, the lack of staff has forced the program to work on the highest priority roads and weeds. Christina listed out the number of treatments and roads that the program has done in the last quarter. The program has been working with multiple private pit owners to certify those pits as weed-free. The program is still working with the Master Gardener Roadside Weed Management Team, who has three new members this year. Christina also mentioned the work that the program has been doing with Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board, City of Port Angeles, City of Sequim, WA DNR and Clallam County Department of Community Development.

Christina asked if the Board had any questions. Dan thanked the program for getting so much work done. Bruce Paul mentioned that the Quileute Tribe has been working on knotweed on the Bogachiel River. Christina mentioned that the program was hopeful that they would be able to work with different organizations to treat knotweed. Christina and Dan spoke about knotweed along the Big River.

Financial Report:

The Board received the financial report and transactions since the last meeting in their packets. Christina asked if there were any questions. She mentioned that the expenses for June were higher than normal because the program paid for the new truck that month. There was discussion about the Maverick. Total expenses between April 1st and July 10th were \$136,232.84 and included payroll, purchasing the new Maverick truck, equipment rental, county indirect, and supplies for various projects. Revenues received from April 1st to July 17th totaled \$149,190.31 were comprised of assessment collections as well as payment for services from the Roads Department, Lake Management District, Jefferson County and other at-cost weed control work. The Noxious Weed Fund

balance as of July 12, 2024 was \$253,704.77. Total expenses for the Lake Sutherland Management District (LMD 2) from April 1 through July 10th were \$1,931.66 and were comprised of reimbursement for work that the Noxious Weed staff performed, as well as county indirect. Revenues during the same period totaled \$17,283.09. The LMD 2 fund balance as of July 10th was \$45,183.55.

Eric Adolphsen made a motion to accept the staff and financial reports, Dan Peacock seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor none opposed.

New Business:

2026 Budget

Christina began talking about the Noxious Weed budget. Christina spoke about the big change between 2025 and 2026, which was the addition of a new full-time position that would work of contract, grant and at-cost weed control work. Christina also spoke about the performance measures and changes she made in 2026. Christina asked if there were any questions about the Noxious Weed budget. Bruce Paul asked about vehicle needs. Christina mentioned that the program doesn't need a new vehicle because the S10 is working well. Christina has spoken with the Roads Department about buying a used vehicle in the future. Christina mentioned that the proposed revenue for 2026 is her best guess and she has not heard that any of the program's grants have been revoked. Christina is working with the Finance Department to figure out how the indirect will change because the weed specialist is now in the Noxious Weed Department. The Roads Department has shown interest in continuing the noxious weed program.

Eric Adolphsen made a motion to approve the proposed 2026 noxious weed control budget. Roberta Stoneman seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor none opposed.

Christina then spoke about the Lake Management District 2026 budget. The LMD was renewed last year and the assessment was doubled to pay for divers and other costs. Christina spoke briefly about the LMD Steering Committee and recruiting new members. The only change in the expenditures was a printing budget line. Christina asked if the Board had any questions.

Roberta Stoneman made a motion to approve the proposed 2026 Lake Management District budget. Eric Adolphsen seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No comments.

MOTION SUMMARY:

- Adopt the April minutes. RS initiated motion, BP seconded, unanimous approval.
- Approve staff and financial reports, EA initiated motion, DP seconded, unanimous approval.
- Approve 2026 Noxious Weed budget as drafted, EA initiated motion, RS seconded, unanimous approval.

- Approve 2026 LMD budget as drafted, RS initiated motion, EA seconded, unanimous approval.

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN:

The next board meeting was scheduled for October 28th at 4:30 p.m. It will be held at the County Courthouse in the Commissioner's meeting room. Christina mentioned that there will be two new employees with the program by the next Board meeting. Bruce, Christina and Sam discussed a private pit just east of Port Angeles, WSDOT fish passage projects and discussions about Scotch broom along the Hwy 101 PUD corridor. The group had a conversation about how to speak about the fire risk that Scotch broom poses to the public. The Board also discussed weed control successes and challenges. The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by:

Christina St John, coordinator