

**Gorse Action Group**  
**Face-to-Face Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 16, 2016**

Attending:

Alexis Brickner – Coos Watershed Association  
Jim Seeley – Wild Rivers Coast Alliance  
Marie Simonds – Wild Rivers Coast Alliance  
Heidi McGowan – Oregon Solutions  
Sherri Laier – Oregon State Parks  
Hannah McDonald – South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve  
Erin Minster – Curry SWCD  
Dustin Williams – Curry SWCD  
Carri Pirosko – Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Mike Murphy – Coos County Emergency Services  
Will Bailey – Private citizen of Bandon  
Darcy Grahek – Go Native Plant Nursery  
John Baine – Caddy McKeown office  
Norma Kline – OSU Extension  
Steve Jansen – Coos County  
Doug Croucher – Bandon Prepares  
Jeff – Bandon Dunes  
Ken Nice – Bandon Dunes  
John Bragg – South Slough  
Don Kendall – Curry County Emergency Services

**GAG Presentation**

Alexis presented a PowerPoint presentation for Heidi as an introduction to GAG, its history, and where the group is heading.

**Oregon Solutions (OS)**

The GAG is currently in the assessment phase to recommend gorse to the governor as an Oregon Solutions project. Heidi stated that a convener would be designated to work with GAG on the problem and report back to OS. OS would support the community to identify what the solution is and help with a Declaration of Cooperation, then let the community implement the project. OS is not part of the governor's office but housed at Portland State University. The assessment will go into September at which time GAG will be recommended to the governor if OS determines GAG and gorse as an appropriate project.

Erin asked what the scope of the OS project would be. Jim replied that gorse knows no boundaries and it should include the entire southern coast, not limited by public boundaries.

Hannah asked if OS helps groups become a focused, organized entity. Heidi responded that OS would help facilitate a dialogue about how that could fit into the plan for the

overall solution. Even though this is not a state group, the “stamp of the Governor” helps endorse a project and solve the problem.

Carri asked if an invasive species had ever been a project before because that would be an excellent thing for those in the invasive species world. Erin asked if the Governor would prefer state agencies. Heidi responded that yes, she would because those agencies of the state.

Jim described his involvement with the Oregon Invasive Species Council and the lack of knowledge about gorse. Jim met Dr. Mark Systma through the OISC who had a graduate student who would like to work on gorse and broom role in eutrophication.

Darcy discussed embedding gorse and gorse control in the culture of the coast. She is having her students do public art about pollinators that have been displaced by gorse. This is a great start to a bigger outreach and education campaign.

The group was out of time at this point and saved the remaining agenda items for the September conference call.