

Gorse Action Group
Conference Call with The Nature Conservancy
April 4th, 2014
Re: Gorse Mapping Project

Attendees:

Keith Massie
Frank Burris – OSU Extension
Marie Simonds – Wild Rivers Coast Alliance
Michael Schindel – The Nature Conservancy
Alexis Brickner – Coos Watershed Association

- The Nature Conservancy has \$20,000 to contribute to the gorse mapping project
- Keith reviewed the progress on the mapping project; ½ of the project area has been flown and the crew is waiting for the next best flying day to finish up
- Michael Schindel, The Nature Conservancy, discussed the process
 - He will create a spectral library using at least 200 data points from a variety of topographic conditions
 - The computer software should be able to differentiate between gorse and scotch broom flower
 - The timeframe for this work is to be determined
- There was a discussion of what would be needed for ground truthing the data points
 - A set protocol for ground truthing teams
 - Accurate GPS units
- There was a discussion about how the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center (ORBIC) would fit into the picture
 - Technical assistance
 - Meet with them after receiving TNC deliverables
- Michael commented that if there were more data points, we would be able to do some predictive modeling of where gorse might spread, a “risk map” for gorse habitat