

All Partner Meeting Agenda
March 16, 2022
3:00-4:40 PM
Virtual (Zoom)

Action items from the meeting

- **2021 GAG accomplishments:** If you did any amount of gorse control in 2021, please fill out the [2021 GAG Accomplishments](#) form at your earliest convenience. This will help us develop a report of our collective accomplishments. Skip the questions that don't pertain to you. *Last call is 3/25.*
- **Gorse stories:** If there are any gorse-related updates or stories you'd like shared on social media or the website, email content to Alexa at gorseactiongroup@gmail.com.
- **GAG website committee:** We will be forming a committee to make the Gorse Action group website (<https://gorseactiongroup.org/>) more accessible. If you are interested in serving on this committee, let Erin know at gorseactiongroup@gmail.com.
- **NRCS CIS feedback:** Cheyanne and Katie would like some feedback on the CIS before submitting it March 25. Watch out for an email from them in the coming days. More info about Oregon's Conservation Implementation Strategies (CIS) here: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/or/technical/cp/?cid=stelprdb1262209>
- **Emerging gorse needs:** WRCA interested in capturing, elevating, and supporting any new needs that arise—Donut Hole committee? More face-to-face education? If you have any emerging needs, let Alexa or Erin know (email gorseactiongroup@gmail.com) so we can connect with Marie/WRCA.
- **Senate Bill 762:** Al Johnson will follow up for more info on Senate Bill 762, which pertains to the wildland-urban interface maps. More info here: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/board/pages/rac.aspx> and <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/board/Documents/laws-rules/20210916-wui-bc-swrm-rac-process-topics-draft.pdf>
- **Gorse control demo site:** Carri, Liza will work with Marie, ODOT on a sub-committee for wrapping up the gorse demo site (<https://gorseactiongroup.org/projects/hwy-101-gorse-removal-demonstration/>).
- **Utility company collaboration:** Liza will organize a subcommittee to meet with utility companies about how we can support one another.
- **Agenda items for next meeting:** send ideas any time to Alexa and Erin at gorseactiongroup@gmail.com.
- **Next meeting:** we plan to meet in person in April or May, hopefully in Port Orford. Stay tuned!

Meeting attendees (21): Rhonda Black (Umpqua SWCD), Alexa Carleton (Coos Watershed Association), Dan Chandler (City of Bandon), Ed Cope (Coos Watershed Association), Liza Ehle (Windward Gardens, LLC), Robin Harkins (Coquille Indian Tribe), Kate Iaquinto (USFWS), Al Johnson (Private/Wild Rivers Coast Alliance Board), Jason Kral (Private/Windward Gardens/City of Bandon), Ivy Metzgas (Coquille Watershed Association), Erin Minster (Curry SWCD/Curry Watersheds Partnership), Carri Pirosko (ODA Weeds Program), Austin Richard (US Fish and Wildlife Service/Bandon Marsh), Cheyanne Rico (NRCS), Marie Simonds (WRCA), Bear Slothower (City of Bandon), Paula Thomson (WRCA), Monica Ward (Curry County Emergency Management), Goldie Warncke (Coos Bay BLM), Katlyn (Katie) Woodruff (NRCS), Alice Yeates (South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve).

Partner updates

Since it had been a while since our last meeting, we focused the meeting on round-robin updates:

City of Bandon

- Dan Chandler – City Manager for City of Bandon, City has funds to help landowners with gorse, and was invited to submit \$450K grant for gorse within growth boundary.
- Jason Kral – started out as property owner with gorse, helps Bear Slothower, joined Coos County Weed Advisory Board.
- Bear Slothower – Vegetation Manager, works for City to get rid of gorse. Working with Dan on Area 1, going well. Starting on District 2 soon, sending letters. Hopes to do classes this year to get people talking about gorse.

Coos Bay Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Goldie Warncke – Invasive Species and Native Plants Coordinator. Took over for Jeanne Standley and has been in this position for a year and a half (was with Coquille Watershed Association prior). Noxious weeds are her main focus; currently writing new herbicide use permits for BLM land.

Coos Watershed Association (CoosWA)

- Alexa Carleton – Outreach Coordinator since 2013, helping with GAG admin/organiz.
- Ed Cope– joined CoosWA in 2020 as Plants Program Manager. CoosWA has recently restructured Weeds program to be more connected to restoration and re-planting. Recently hired Anders Hansen for this new position; replaced Noxious Weeds Coordinator Lucy Allison, who left CoosWA at the end of 2021. Anders does on-the-ground work and Ed will do more of the planning piece, serve on committees, etc.

Coquille Indian Tribe (CIT)

- Robin Harkins – is in new role as Natural Resources Director. Was Director of GIS Services previously. CIT will be doing something with gorse in the lots below Pacific View in the near future.

Coquille Watershed Association

- Ivy Metzgas – does noxious weed surveys, monitoring, treatment, took over some of Sherri Laier’s projects (Sherri retired in October 2021).

Curry County Emergency Management

- Monica Ward – New to the position. Submitted grant to update Curry Wildfire Protection Plan.

Curry SWCD/Curry Watersheds Partnership

- Erin Minster – manages weed control for Curry County, lots of gorse work. Shared map of core infestations, with two big patches: Bandon and Elk River/Sixes. There’s a big population around Harris Beach State Park, and Brookings residents aren’t very aware. Last year did steep slopes removal at Harris Beach. Erin is working with Samara Group on a gorse PowerPoint that we can all use and will share it when complete, as well as some updates to the website to make it more accessible and easier to maintain. Coquille Watershed Association currently hosts the website through Armstrong Technologies.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – Coquille office

- Cheyanne Rico – Soil Conservationist and planner. Helped with demo near Edgewater Restaurant, will be involved with gorse removal in Coos and Curry County, and is submitting CIS draft on March 25th.
- Katlyn (Katie) Woodruff – District Conservationist, working with Cheyanne Rico on gorse CIS.

ODA Weeds Program

- Carri Pirosko – focusing now on summarization of data for GAG demo plot. Frank Burris (OSU) is retiring in June; she is focusing on getting all the info from him on this project in the meantime.

South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (SSNERR)

- Alice Yeates – has been Stewardship Coordinator for 3 years. Lots of programs, including invasives. There are a couple old infestations on SSNERR property that are well-managed. Pulling new seedlings as they arise to keep populations in check. Alice runs Second Saturday Stewards program with a different invasive species each time; gorse will be one soon.

Umpqua SWCD

- Rhonda Black – treats occasional gorse patches, has worked on gorse with BLM.

US Fish and Wildlife Service

- Kate Iaquinto – changed roles recently and this will likely be her last GAG meeting. Is now Deputy Project Leader and will be supervising the new person in her old position doing gorse control at Bandon Marsh. Can still contact her with gorse issues on coast.
- Austin Richard – biotech intern at Bandon Marsh; treating gorse at Coquille Point.

Wild Rivers Coast Alliance (WRCA)

- Al Johnson – retired land use lawyer, did permitting on Bandon Dunes. Main interest now is Donut Hole – future plan may be to turn it into workforce housing.
- Marie Simonds – Executive Director of WRCA. WRCA has been involved with GAG since its inception as funder and enthusiastic supporter.

Windward Gardens LLC

- Liza Ehle – Independent Contractor, wrote District Plan for City of Bandon, offers classes for OSU such as cranberry growing, cost-share program in herbicides (safety training), and lots of other contractor weeds trainings.

Wrap-up

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM. We will aim to meet in person in April/May and again later in the summer.