



GORSE ACTION GROUP MTG NOTES:
October 1, 2024
9:00-12:00
Bandon Barn Community Center

The Gorse Action Group (GAG) is an informal group of participants including federal and state agencies, non-profit organizations, private industry, and landowners. The GAG is working to control and reduce the spread of gorse, minimize the impact of gorse on our economy and natural resources, and provide a successful process to share with others facing gorse infestations. To learn more about our efforts, visit <https://gorseactiongroup.org/>.

Attending (21): Erin Minster (Curry SWCD/CWP & GAG Coordinator), Peter Van Ess (contractor), Jason Kral (City of Bandon), Scott Leavengood (OSU), Alice Yeates (SSNERR), Jake Robinson (contractor), Celeste Lebo (USFWS), Eric Perry (CoosWA), Carri Pirosko (ODA), Ivy Randall (CoqWA), Marie Simonds (BDCF), Paula Thompson (BDCF), Norma Kline (OSU), Chris Sumpter (contractor), Alex Cook (USFWS), Courtney Comer (USFWS), **Virtual:** Glen Pederson (ODOT), Jessica Leberage (OR Regional Solutions), Debbie Meuller (Coos County), Tara Olson (OAT), Robin Harkins (Coquille Indian Tribe).

Action items and links:

- Pedal and Pull: October 26, 2024
[Pedal and Pull](#)
- Contractor list
https://drive.google.com/file/d/17mP-P9Kju1z132HXTcu_O-izdRdUkNL/view
- Vegetation Management Winter Education: December 12, 2024
lizaehle@yahoo.com, flyer for training attached
- Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium: December 10-12, 2024
[State of Oregon: Meetings and Symposiums - Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium](#)

Speaker	Topic	Notes
Erin Minster	GAG welcome and updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractor model and quiz completed • Curry County updated their Community Fire Protection Plan (awaiting approval from Commissioners) • GAG received another round of funding from the Bandon Dunes Charitable Foundation grant award • Darcy with Stillwater Natives has four internship opportunities at the Johnson Creek Greenway • December 12th, 8 am to 5 pm (lunch included and free): Winter education opportunity for sprayers
Scott Leavengood	Presentation on gorse building materials Starts at 00:06:30 in the recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gorse Oregon Wood Innovation Center (oregonstate.edu) • Other business examples: Formology Inc. (decorative panels from nontraditional materials), SecondStory Products (construction and demolition debris)

		<p>repurposed), Durapalm (extremely durable material made out of sugar palms)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Began creating panels out of gorse: gathered wood, chipped, strained, pressed (12" by 12"), and tested product • Product is extremely strong and possibly fungal resistant!
Erin Minster	Contractor Module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being offered at the December 12th training • Module and quiz are complete, updating contractor list now (current contractors have until November 1st to take the quiz before getting taken <i>off</i> the list)
All	<p>Group slideshow – Gorse B & A/ impacts</p> <p>Starts at 01:13:10</p>	<p>Carri Pirosko (ODA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matgrass (down to 5%) and gorse removal at Black Lock Point, Cape Blanco = increasing western bog lily habitat • Joel Price (bio control specialist)- post thrip release monitoring, thrip populations slowly growing at 12 sites statewide <p>Norma Kline (OSU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just got back from a conference in New Zealand, large gorse population there but is used as a companion plant for native trees! <p>Jim Carr (Forester in Elk River, not present)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CREP project at Grassy Knob, 30 acres of gorse removal with 10 years of maintenance to ensure removal <p>Alex Cook (USFWS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gorse island (last old growth stand at the Refuge), each year focus on a patch, slow and steady mechanical removal! <p>Scott Mickelson (ODOT, not present)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSWCD has a flexible maintenance agreement with ODOT specifically in the right of way. Swanson Ecological Services (contractor) working with private landowners to remove gorse that is invading the roads Port Orford to Sixes. <p>Liza Ehle (Windward Gardens)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johnson Creek drainage: in two hours, team of five removed and hauled gorse a few hundred yards through difficult terrain on private landowner's property • Johnson Creek drainage: landowner had been mowing property for 10 years to keep the gorse manageable, team went in and sprayed = biodiversity started to come back after one treatment! • Very effective spray using drones on steep cliffside, just did a follow up treatment <p>Jason Kral (City of Bandon)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six property owners are now on the same treatment schedule, started a contagious effect of other

		<p>landowners wanting to get gorse removed, now multiple neighborhoods are being treated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of examples of folks being ignorant of gorse’s impact and eventually welcoming the education and wanting to remove gorse on their property <p>Eric Perry (CoosWA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 26th : Pedal and Pull at the Whisky Run Bike Trails, sign up here: Pedal and Pull • 2023 recap: participants pulled 95 lbs of gorse seedlings • Whisky Run Trails are main target area for gorse work done by CoosWA. Eric works with contractors to spray the larger plants; volunteers remove the seedlings during Pedal and Pull • “Gorse Road” contracted Willamette Valley Forestry to remove gorse, Eric goes in with a UTV sprayer as follow up treatment <p>Erin Minster (Curry SWCD/CWP & GAG Coordinator)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60-acre tree plantation: pines being overcrowded and strangled by gorse and eventually dying mowed last winter • Bandon Natural Area: within 20 years the gorse has completely taken over, multipartner treatments ongoing • Lost Lake Trail: removed the “Wall” • How much light to seedlings need? Not much! • Pines being impacted by gorse gridling trunks • Alice’s hand pulling seedlings video • CFPA, Agritech, and landowner burning pasture gorse. <p><i>GAG members expressed their excitement and pride in seeing their impact, realizing that successful gorse management is POSSIBLE and it’s HAPPENING!!</i></p>
<p>Debbie Mueller</p>	<p>Community Wildfire Protection Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written in 2011 (outdated), currently have funding to add state requirements • Will reach out to organizations for information, host town hall meetings, looking for individuals for the steering committee
<p>Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm</p>		

Zoom link: <https://youtu.be/SZmQrJkHTig>

GORSE PEDAL & PULL!

October 26, 2024 • 1PM - 5PM

Whiskey Run Bike Trails

E Humphrys Rd, Bandon, OR

What is it?

A mountain bike race aimed to remove a seriously invasive species from the Whiskey Run trail system. The winner will not be measured in time but pounds of gorse pulled!

How it works

1. Arrive at 12:45 for sign-in and safety meeting
2. Pedal the established "gorse course"
3. Pull any gorse seedlings visible along trail
4. Pedal to the weigh stations and drop off seedlings
5. Repeat as much as possible until 3:00 PM

Awards

Not only will you be improving your local ecosystem (which is a **HUGE** win!) but there will be prizes that you will be competing for. The winning individual will receive a custom-made **art bike** from Front Street Community Bike Works. The runner-up prizes will be **swag** donated by local bike shops. See QR Code for details!

The winners will be announced after the competition. During this time, we will be celebrating our collective effort through music, cornhole, soda, and 7 Devils' beer! Celebration to go until 5 PM.

Register by October 25!

Register as an individual by emailing kklietz@cooswatershed.org or scanning the QR Code.



Thank you to our sponsors:

GORSE
ACTION GROUP

COOS
Watershed
Association



FRONT STREET
COMMUNITY BIKE
WORKS



BLUE
SKY
BIKESHOP
Coos Bay, Oregon



For more info about gorse and the collaborative work being done to control it on the South Coast, visit <https://gorseactiongroup.org>

Vegetation Management Winter Education Series: 2024

Thursday, December 12, 2024- 8:00 am-5:00 pm



The Three C's of Vegetation Management:

Compliance, Cooperation and Control!

Local, specific and useful information for continuing education credits!

8:00-8:50 am > Compliance: Rules, regulations and renewals!

We look at updates in the big picture of municipal, state and federal laws!

9:00-9:50 am > Critical Components of Contracting and Applying!

We look at how to build cooperation within communities and co-contractors!

10:00-10:50 am > Comprehending Control Complexities from the Ground Up!

We study geology as the foundation for control challenges in our field-trip location!

11:00-11:50 am > Field Trip: Challenges in Control from the Ground Up!

We visit Coquille Point to see vegetation management challenges we encountered!

Lunch 12:00- 1:00 pm: BBQ TriTip or Veggie Burgers, Salads, Chips and Cookies

1:00-1:50 pm > Contractors Cooperating on Defensible Space Concepts!

Contractors and applicators are our first line of defense in defensible space!

2:00-2:50 pm > Characterizing, categorizing and control in Wetlands!

We look at the species, sites, and sensitivities in our wetlands and watersheds!

3:00-3:50 pm > Challenges in Compliance, Cooperation and Control!

We control controversy about erosion, drift, pollinators, and herbicides!

4:00-4:50 pm > Contractor's Module Short Course=Certification!

We complete the contractor lesson module together to get your business certified!

8 hours ODA/OLCB/CCB CEH approved! \$25/credit hour per person- \$200/day

Bandon City Park Community Center/Barn plus Field Trip to Coquille Point

Bring rain gear/boots for field trip, masks if desired, social distancing encouraged.

Windward Gardens, LLC

Class Registration Form

Winter Education Series: 2024

The Three C's of Vegetation Management!

Name: _____

Agency or Business: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Thursday December 12th, 2024

8:00 am to 5:00 pm

8 hours (4 CORE) ODA/OLCB/CCB credits pending!!!

Lunch and snacks provided: (circle preferences)

Gluten Free Snacks

Green Salad

Meat Free BBQ

Potato Salad

Tri Tip Steak BBQ

Four Bean Salad

Yes, snacks, lunch and drinks are provided!

Dress warm and enjoy extra networking time!

Bring Business Cards, Brochures and License Numbers!

Questions? Liza Ehle 541-290-1018 or lizaehle@yahoo.com