



Pierce County

Noxious Weed Control Board

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Puyallup, Washington 98373

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Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board Annual Public Meeting

Wednesday, January 20th, 2021

Wednesday, January 20th, 2020 PCNWCB Quarterly Meeting (Via Zoom)

Meeting called to order at 9:50

Attendance:

Program Director – Morgan Heilesen, Secretary to the Board – Melody Meyer,

Accountant – Donna Peoples

Chairperson – Beki Shoemaker, Board members: Janet Azevedo, Erick Balstad.

WSU Representative – Jim Kropf

No public in attendance at this meeting.

Community Outreach and Education Specialist presents:

Changes to 2021 State Weed List

The State Noxious Weed Board voted on the following changes to the 2020 noxious weed list. All of these approved changes to the noxious weed list took effect January 1, 2020.

Added to Class A Noxious Weed List 2021

WAC 16.750.005 Class A addition:

Turkish thistle, *Carduus cinereus*, Asteraceae Family, Class A noxious weed

Turkish thistle, *Carduus Cinereus*

Native to Turkey and east to the Himalayas

First discovered in North America in July of 2019, in the Hells Canyon Wilderness of northeastern Oregon (Wallowa County) and western Idaho. It has not been reported in Washington State.

Annual plant that can grow up to 4 feet tall, has non spherical, narrowing to the tips and rather compressed flower heads, purplish in color. Key identifier is that the flower heads are usually short stemmed, 0 – 3 cm and wooly. (see picture to the right).

Specific bloom time parameters have not been documented.

Stems are hairy, winged, unbranched to openly branched.

Basal leaves are up to 4 inches in length and taper to winged petioles with 2 – 5 lobed edges, undersides of leaves are wooly, upper sides are lightly haired. Stem leaves attach directly to the stem and reduce in size as they move up. Stems may be 3 – 48 inches tall, depending on growing environment and conditions.

Seeds are golden to brown in color. 0.16 to 0.24 inches long with a bristly tuft at one end.

Reproduces by seed, it is not known to reproduce vegetatively; seed dormancy is unknown at this time, others in the same genus (*carduus*) have viability up to 18 years. Other *Carduus* seeds main vectors have been wind, water and wildlife as well as outdoor recreation (seeds embedded in mud or dirt on vehicles, equipment or clothing).

Grows in dry, semi arid areas and grasslands to rugged, rocky slopes and ephemeral stream beds. It is not known at this time how adaptable this plant may be in other conditions and locations.

Potential Environmental and Economic impacts:

Turkish thistle can impact grazing areas for commercial livestock and wildlife alike; out competing native grasses. Increasing weed density can compromise palatability and the health of grasslands reducing grazing areas for domestic livestock and wildlife. Biodiverse wildlife habitats are also threatened by the presence of this weed.

The potential to adversely impact commercial agricultural crops is high, especially those of hay and grain. Because Turkish thistle has been found near cattle gates and within 100 feet of a public roadway, seed spread is likely.

Hybridization is common in the *Carduus* genus; it is an additional risk with Turkish thistle.

Hybridizing increases adaptability of plants, allowing them to utilize different environments, and develop different characteristic than their parent plants, often creating additional issues.

Class B: Designated for Enforcement in Pierce County

No new designations in 2021

Scientific Name Updates:

- *Anchusa arvensis*, annual bugloss to *Lycopsis arvensis*
- *Polygonum cuspidatum*, Japanese knotweed to *Fallopia japonica*
- *Polygonum sachalinense*, giant knotweed to *Fallopia sachalinensis*
- *Polygonum x bohemicum*, Bohemian knotweed to *Fallopia x bohémica*
- *Saccharum ravennae*, Ravenna grass to *Tripidium ravennae*
- *Matricaria perforata*, scentless mayweed to *Tripleurospermum inodorum*
- *Silene latifolia* ssp. *alba*, white cockle to *Silene latifolia*
- *Centaurea x moncktonii*, meadow knapweed to *Centaurea x gerstlaueri*
- *Zostera japonica*, Japanese eelgrass to *Nanozostera japonica*

Class C Additions / Reclassifications:

No additions to class C noxious weed list.

No noxious weed reclassifications.

No public in attendance for comment.

Janet motioned to adopt the 2021 State Noxious Weed List Changes.

Erick seconded the motion.

No opposition

Motion passed; 2021 State Noxious Weed List Changes adopted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Report respectfully submitted by Melody Meyer, Secretary to the Board.

Beki Shoemaker, Chairperson, District 3

Erick Balstad, Vice Chairperson, District 4

Janet Azevedo, District 1

Melody Meyer, Secretary to the Board