

# *Creative Community Solutions, Inc.*

Planning • Facilitation • Community Development

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## **CHEHALIS BASIN PARTNERSHIP HABITAT WORKGROUP MEETING January 15, 2010**

### **INVASIVE SPECIES**

In attendance:

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April Boe, [aboer@tnc.org](mailto:aboer@tnc.org)

Meeting facilitated by John Kliem and Debbie Holden.

## **1. Introduction**

The purpose of this meeting was to continue identifying invasive species in subbasins.

## **2. Invasive Species in Sub-basins:**

### **Satsop:**

- Top priority in basin
- Upper reaches are “comparatively” good
- Lower 4 miles infested with invasive plants
  - Giant Bohemian Knotweed
  - Japanese Knotweed
- Chemical treatment is being used
  - Too difficult and dangerous for pulling
- Get landowner buy-in before starting a project

**Wynoochee:**

- Purple Loosestrife
- Knotweed

**Estuary and Surge-Plain:**

- Knotweed

**Newaukum:**

- High level for survey

**Cloquallum:**

- Knotweed

**Grays Harbor to Satsop:**

- Purple Loosestrife

**Hoquiam:**

- Targeted as priority
- Knotweed

**Wishkah:**

- Knotweed
- All species
- General with lower reaches

**Humptulips:**

- Knotweed

**South Bay:**

- Knotweed

**Upper Watershed (upstream of Chehalis: South Fork Chehalis, Mainstem, Elk Creek, and areas near/upstream of Pe Ell):**

- Knotweed assessment & control

### **3. Additional Information to Include in Plan**

The major ways knotweed spreads is through flooding and transportation. We need to focus on education to the public, work crews, and others who use the rivers and roadways.

- Teach people how to identify knotweed and other invasive species
- Road crews can carry chemical spray to apply to knotweed infestations they come across or partner with someone who can spray
- Have a plan before doing field work, for instance, clean equipment before and after work
- GPS knotweed invasions

How we designate between Tier 1 and Tier 2 concerns:

- Tier 1 projects render the greatest benefit to fish
  - Is there fish in the stream?
  - How will the project impact salmonids?
  - Is eradicating knotweed or other invasive species the most important work for the sub-basin?
- Tier 1 projects are first in line for implementation
- Tier 2 projects are less beneficial to fish

Acquisition Projects

- Identify long-term goals

Rapid response method:

- The rapid response method describes a project that would include as many sub-basins as possible. Workers would kill knotweed along all highways and roadways connected to streams in order to keep the species out of waterways.

The person to contact for invasive species information in Lewis County is Bill Wamsley.

### **4. Next Steps**

John and Debbie will write up a draft document for inclusion in the Chehalis Basin strategy.