

Knot in Hyde Park Committee

Wednesday, Sept 27, 2023

Virtual Meeting 5:30 PM

MINUTES

In attendance: M Walz, W Lane, T Brease, F Landrey

Apologies: R Pearson, T Pearson

Report on the pilot herbicide program. The application took place in two parts on Thursday, 21 Sept. In the AM, 6 sites under the Dept of Ag permit. At 5 PM application on the patch of KW and multiflora Rose along parking lot. We now hope that we don't have an early frost, and wait to see the results in the spring.

Goats at Gamble. They seem to be well and happy. They have eaten all the KW and Multiflora Rose. Browsing on Tree bark. Plans for next year depend on Goats and Goatherder. Tbd.

Update on New Volunteers. WL and FL reported on new contacts and volunteers which is encouraging.

Reports on Existing Sites/Dry Stacks/Roots etc. Results this year have been great at all mechanical control sites. Loads of evidence of KW being beaten back.

In spring 2024:

- Consider consolidating drying stacks (Morin A can be removed and use only Morin B; Giersbach Culvert could be taken to Baker DS; Diggins A and B consolidated).
- Roots that are dead, especially at Mck Hill/Diggins: let them compost one more winter. Decide in the spring whether to remove or leave. In general: is there a need to take anything off site once it's composted?

Sites for Season 2024

Big projects:

- Diggins "uphill": there is a lot of KW up there at the 'headwaters' – risk of erosion and spread is great. Design a project to deal with it in stages. FL is keen to lead this and has identified volunteers to help.
- Garfield Cross Guardrail. This is a big problem. It also poses big spread risk if/when the culvert is replaced. We want to design a plan of attack to deal with this pre- any construction.
- Gamble Site continued

Smaller/Medium Sites:

- Center Road Culvert (met with Mr. Tallman who is supportive)
- Grimes Road (new patch discovered after recent ditching, see Arc Map)
- Ebenezer at end of road.
- Clark Dr (off Center Road)
- Centerville Road at small pond
- Battle Row (Lacasse Farm)
- Center Road north of Plantation Road

Other Issues. WL noted that there is tree-planting work proposed for Oxbow but wondered what is happening about the KW there. She has made contact with people in Morristown. We noted that it would be good to try to find people in Morrisville interested in helping it take a more active approach to its KW problem; we want to help. Winter communications and explorations?

MW agrees to draft for review a season close communication to all on our mailing list.

Meanwhile, though, KiHP takes a rest from meeting after a busy and successful season of 'stopping the spread'.

Next Meeting tentatively proposed for Wednesday January 17 2024, 5:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned 6 PM