

**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
2270 Old Penitentiary Road  
PO Box 7249  
Boise, ID 83707**

**RULES GOVERNING INVASIVE SPECIES AND NOXIOUS WEEDS  
Minutes of July 10, 2024, Meeting  
Meeting was live streamed via Teams**

**DEPARTMENT STAFF:**

Lloyd Knight – ISDA  
Andrea Thompson – ISDA  
Nic Zurfluh – ISDA  
Jeremey Varley – ISDA  
Tina Eiman - ISDA  
Victor Azevedo – ISDA  
Daniel Salmi – ISDA  
Caroline Melle – ISDA  
Austin Prestwich – ISDA  
Sarah Smith - ISDA  
Jason Meyers - ISDA

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Clark Alder  
Mitch Whitmill  
Josh Scholer – DFM  
Margaret Major – DFM  
Brandon Brackenbury  
Mike Ottley  
Bonnie Davis  
Albert Adjesiwor  
Kali Sherrill  
Bryce Fowler  
Darren Krzesnik  
Nick Deeds  
Selena Virden  
Cathy Ford  
Chase Youngdahl  
Andi Woolf-Weibye  
Brad Smith  
Roger Batt  
Alan Martinson  
Craig Kelley  
Adam Schroeder  
John Franson  
Mick Goff  
Lisa Jones  
Shanda

Cassidey Plum  
Patxi Larrocea Phillips

The meeting was called to order by Lloyd Knight at 1:00pm MT.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Lloyd introduced everyone on the call and explained the rulemaking process and where to find the petitions, handouts, and other resources. Lloyd also announced that even though the focus is on the petitions received for listing, the whole rule was open for questions, comments, and concerns.

## **PRESENTATION**

Jeremy Varley presented the two petitions before the group: Palmer amaranth and Myrtle spurge. He also reviewed considerations regarding the listing category of Turkish thistle, and language in the rule that was supposed to be added to legislation this year but was left off. Before the public comment period, Jeremy reviewed the listing categories and what happens in each one.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON PALMER AMARANTH LISTING**

Clark Adler – In favor of listing due to the crop yield loss that Palmer amaranth can cause.

Albert Adjesiwor – In favor of listing due to the crop yield loss that Palmer amaranth can cause.

Mitch Whitmill – Against listing due to processes and procedures that are required after listing. There are more negatives than positives.

Chase Youngdahl – Against listing due to there is no ecological impact, only crop.

Roger Batt – Wanted to ensure that the seed industry won't be negatively impacted by the listing. He doesn't want a seed testing nightmare. Would like additional time for industry discussions.

Mike Ottley – Firmly against listing. Farmers need to manage their own fields and irrigation companies need to manage the canals.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MYRTLE SPURGE LISTING**

Mitch Whitmill – In favor of listing due to the spread from ornamental areas into range and wild land areas. Recommended Control listing to push it back into ornamental areas.

Bryce Fowler – Against listing due to too many people have Myrtle spurge as ornamental plants on their property. Will cause too many issues with private home owners.

John Franson – Reiterated that this plant causes health issues and irritation

Bonnie Davis – Against listing due to not enough personnel to manage this. Stated that if it must be listed, have a Containment listing at best.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON EDRR LANGUAGE EDIT**

No public comments on the EDRR language edit.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON TURKISH THISTLE RECLASSIFICATION**

Chase Youngdahl wanted to ensure aerial spraying was prohibited. Wanted to know what options were available for spraying. Recommended maybe moving Turkish thistle into the Control category. Jeremy Varley reviewed spraying and control options due to aerial spraying being prohibited.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mitch Whitmill had additional questions and comments about the free forage rule and “weed free” moniker used for projects. Andrea Thompson recommended Mitch submit a written comment with specific questions to address this.

Bryce Fowler additionally stated that in his area, all county, state, and federal projects must use gravel, hay, mulch, etc. that has the “weed free” label.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Andrea Thompson thanked everyone for coming and reminded everyone about the second meeting later in the month. Andrea called adjournment to the meeting at 2:45pm MT.