

January 31, 2016 – Rangeland Invasive Species Committee Minutes- Corpus Christi

Attendance: Keith Harmoney (kharmone@ksu.edu), Walt Fick (wfick@ksu.edu), David Toledo, William Rose (wrose@uwyo.edu), Brian Mealor (bamealor@uwyo.edu), Margaret Gannon (mgannon20012@gmail.com)

Roll Call and Introductions were made by those in attendance. The Board of Directors representative Joe Hicks was present and made a few short comments on wanting to help the committee in any way possible, and that the BOD may be looking at some alternative strategies for filling committees.

The Aphis Funding in the 2016 Omnibus bill was briefly discussed. It was believed that invasive species may be removed from the bill, but it ended up being funded with a \$23 million dollar increase.

A proposed change in the SRM Wild Horse policy, concerning the use of horse slaughter, was circulated for comment prior to the meeting. All comments that were given through the RISC committee were forwarded on to the Policy and Public Affairs Committee. Those were then sent to the BOD and no decision on action from those comments had taken place yet.

The 2016 RISC Tour to the Welder Wildlife Foundation was discussed. It was listed as both a companion and a technical tour, so hopefully it will be well attended. The tour will talk about invasive species, wildlife and livestock on the foundation property, and research projects underway.

The Symposia and Technical Sessions involving invasive species were mentioned. Three technical sessions and a symposia are on the schedule. Thanks to Bob Masters and Tim Fulbright for arranging the symposia.

Discussion led to the thought of a symposia at the 2017 meeting in St. George. Wild horses were mentioned as an obvious topic. None of the attendees in the RISC meeting were familiar enough with the issue to take a lead on arranging a symposia.

The Noxious Weed web links on the RISC committee site are likely out of date. It was believed SRM was getting new web designers and they may need new links for the site. Possibly a contact from each state would be able to look at the links for their respective state and get updated links.

SRM has been pushing for ideas that could result in training to take place at the annual meetings so that more government agency personnel would be allowed to attend. It was brought up that the Association of State Ag Commissioners may be a place to check out to see if pesticide applicator training or testing could take place at the annual meetings as a way to attract more agency attendees.

Walt Fick was voted on as Chair for the 2017 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.