

Foxtail Pines OA
Weed Mitigation Plan Meeting
April 22, 2017 – 10am to Noon
Northwest Fire Protection District
Station 2

Attendees:

Janine Snyder	President
John Davis	Vice President
Rob Martinelli	Secretary
Tammy Devine	Member At-Large

Call to Order /established a Quorum at 10:06 AM.

Agenda for this meeting was limited to approval of previous meeting minutes, update on reporting for reservoir, and development of weed mitigation plan.

Revised minutes from April 8, 2017 Board meeting, as distributed on April 20, 2017, were approved unanimously.

Lower Sacramento Creek Reservoir Company

Based on response received from legal counsel (Aaron Ladd) on April 12, we agreed unanimously to authorize up to \$2,000 allowance to Vranesh & Raisch for them to continue developing a response to state Engineer, including their coordination with Bill Blatchley.

Weed Mitigation Plan

Mechanical (Mowing, Weeding, Digging):

1. Pro's – Can use volunteers for weeding & digging (low cost). Bagged Mower can capture seeds for off-site disposal.
2. Con's – May be difficult to recruit volunteers. May need to hire crew to do work. Limited to removing overgrowth. Brush hog or other large equipment would disperse plant seeds if not bagged.
3. Optimal Time for implementation – Three times (May, June, August). Concentrate on pond area and open space upstream.

Goats:

1. Pro's – Natural process; is used by ranchers and municipalities in similar situations. (Used around Lake Dillon in Summit County as example). Does not disperse most seeds. May have some soil surface advantages for seeding.
2. Con's – Expensive – need to consider negotiating cost reduction. Will eat the Canadian thistle if herd is properly managed. Better to do early in season. Need to reduce duration (approx. one week) to stay within overall budget.
3. Optimal Time for implementation: June- July

Chemical Herbicides:

1. Pro's – Can be selective or non-selective. Can be very effective at moderate cost.
2. Con's – Potential to contaminate fish and other wildlife; concern with use around pond.
3. Optimal Time for implementation: August- September

Natural Herbicides (Clove Oil, Vinegar):

1. Pro's – Inexpensive and considered potentially less harmful. Can be selective with proper application.
2. Con's – Need to recruit volunteers; needs proper mixture and application to be effective.
3. Optimal Time for implementation: August - September

Controlled Burn (limited to steep part of exterior face of dam):

1. Pro's – Inexpensive. Easier than alternatives for steep area.
2. Con's – Limited by NWFD to one cubic yard per permit; would require multiple permits. Potential fire concern (can be mitigated by having pump available, and limiting to pond area). Need to see if Forest Service is available to conduct burn.
3. Optimal Time for implementation: May

Revegetation:

1. Pro's – Relatively inexpensive. Will reduce weed mitigation requirements in future years.
2. Con's – Need to recruit volunteers. Needs proper seed mix for best results.
3. Optimal Time for implementation: June-July

Consensus of group was to recommend a combination of bagged mower, goats, natural chemicals, and controlled burn, followed by revegetation. Need to keep within \$10K overall budget set at October 2016 Board meeting. Janine will draft plan for review and discussion with Owners at meeting to be held on May 6 at 10AM at NWFD Station.

Rob will follow up with local landscaping companies regarding bagged mowing in area adjacent to pond. Tammy will pursue getting grants from County, Extension Office, or State. Tammy will also discuss controlled burn with Forest Service.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.