

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>Meeting/Project Name:</b> Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council Meeting	
<b>Date of Meeting:</b> January 9, 2012	<b>Time:</b> 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b> Carol Bearden	<b>Location:</b> Heritage Inn, Great Falls
<b>1. Meeting Objective</b>	
Business Meeting	
<b>2. Attendees</b>	
<p><b>Council Members:</b> Jim Gordon, Jennifer Anderson Vermillion, Margie Edsall, Dan Jackson, Nico Cantalupo, Todd Wagner, Jack Eddie, Dick Zoanni, Jim Olivarez</p> <p><b>Agency Representatives:</b> Joe Weigand, Jim Jacobs (conference call), Lamy Beneker, John Gaskin, Steve Shely, Peter Stevenson, Mike Miller, Steve Siegelin, Tracy Sterling (conference call), John Simons, Dan Dobler, Gary Adams</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Taelor Anderson, Joe Merenz, Celestine Duncan</p> <p><b>Montana Dept. of Agriculture (MDA) Staff:</b> Greg Ames, Donna Rise, Dave Burch, Kim Johnson, Carol Bearden, Jeremy Seditz, Craig McLane</p>	
<b>3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues</b>	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Welcome New Council Members</b>	Greg Ames opened the meeting and welcomed new council members, Jim Olivarez, Dick Zoanni, and Jack Eddie. Introductions were made.
<b>Review June 22, 2011 Minutes</b>	The minutes from the June 22, 2011 council meeting were reviewed. Margie Edsall moved to accept the minutes as written. Todd Wagner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
<b>Review November 21, 2011 Minutes</b>	The minutes from the November 21, 2011 council meeting were reviewed. Margie Edsall moved to accept the minutes as written. Nico Cantalupo seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
<b>Noxious Weed Trust Fund Budget Report</b>	<p>Greg Ames provided information on the funding estimated to be available for the 2012 Noxious Weed Trust Fund (NWTF) grant hearings. Greg stated that the NWTF grant budget for fiscal year 2012 included \$1,250,000 in Initial State Special Revenue Funding, \$101,150 in General Fund dollars, and \$885,000 from the United States Forest Service (USFS) Cooperative Forestry Assistance/Forest Health Program.</p> <p>Greg advised the council that the Missouri River Watershed Coalition Project (\$40,000) and the Weed Free Borders Project (\$40,000), both specifically designated for funding by the Forest Service, had already been awarded. Greg said that \$18,150 of the USFS funding had been committed for a summer intern cost share, and \$18,840 (three percent of grant funding) was allocated for operating expenses within the MDA Central Services Division.</p>