

Peak Resources
Weekly Update for CWMA
1/23/09

This week was short due to the MLK Holiday on Monday. In addition to the short work week, many of the legislators were absent on Tuesday and Wednesday as they attended the Inauguration in Washington, DC. However, it did give Peak Resources time to work on scheduling some important meetings for CWMA.

On Monday, January 26 we are scheduled to meet with Representative Kathleen Curry. Curry is the Chair of the House Ag committee and is up to speed on weed management issues, so our meeting will be focused on our goals for 2009 and any ideas she may have for us. On Tuesday, January 27 we meet with the Governor's office to introduce the key policy staffer to CWMA and encourage her to speak to the Governor about becoming a spokesperson/advocate for weed management in Colorado. I recommend we follow up with a visit to Western Governor's Association and work from that angle, as well. On Wednesday, January 28 we meet with Senator Penry's policy advisor, Mac Zimmerman. Mac is familiar with weed issues, as he used to be the legislative director for Tom Tancredo, but we need to let him know we will be looking to Senator Penry for support with any legislative action we may take next year. He would also be a good advocate/spokesperson for us on the western slope.

There is a coalition working on transportation issues and we are asking to meet with the key decision makers within this coalition. Our ticket in the door is the maintenance of right of ways and preventing weeds from spreading during the construction and maintenance process. We should have more information on this next week.

We have made a request on behalf of CWMA to present to the Joint House and Senate Ag Committee. Rep Curry and Senator Isgar Co-Chair this committee and they have ultimate control on when we will present. We can discuss this with Rep Curry during our meeting with her on Monday. This will be a wonderful opportunity to educate the committee on who we are and what we hope to achieve long term. This presentation will take some significant time to develop, so we may want to have a strategy meeting once we know our presentation date.

Next Steps:

- Meet with Western Governor's Association
- Continue discussions with transportation coalition on maintenance of right away and prevention.
- Develop presentation for Joint Ag Committee
- Begin to meet with new legislators